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THE

UNITED BRETHREN'S

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER,

AND

Religious Miscellany;

CONTAINING THE MOST RECENT ACCOUNTS RELATING TO THE UNITED BRETHREN'S MISSIONS AMONG THE HEATHEN; WITH OTHER INTERESTING COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THAT CHURCH.

No. 8.] FOURTH QUARTER, 1841. [Vol. VII.

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

I. SOUTH AFRICA.

DEATH OF BROTHER H. P. HALLBECK.

It has pleased the Lord, to make a great breach in the ranks of His servants in South Africa, by the translation into eternal rest, of the gifted, faithful, and indefatigable Superintendent of the Brethren's Mission in that extensive and important field. On the 25th of November last, after a short but painful illness, our dear Br. Hallbeck was removed from the scene of his pleasant and successful labors, to the unspeakable grief of his family, his fellow-servants, and the Hottentot congregation at Genadendal. The stroke is as severe as it was unexpected, and calls for the exercise of a large measure of faith in God, and of resignation to His holy will. The loss which the Brethren's Church and Missions have sustained, by the departure of this honored overseer in the house of the Lord, is, indeed, to all human appearance, irreparable, especially at the present juncture. All who had the privilege of knowing our departed Brother, either personally or by character, will be ready to acknowledge, that he was a man of rare endowments, of ardent zeal, and of distinguished usefulness. The affection and regard which he conciliated, during the period of his earlier service in Germany, Ireland, and England, followed him to the scene of his still important and blessed labors in South Africa, where, for nearly twenty-three years, he consecrated all his powers of mind and body, to the great cause in which he had cheerfully embarked. It may, indeed, be questioned, whether any man, who, in modern times, has engaged as a Missionary among the heathen, has possessed a larger measure of the various qualifications required for this service, or been enabled, by Divine grace, to turn them more effectually to account. With classical and mathematical knowledge his mind was well stored; for literature and poetry he had no mean talent;

and with the treasures of history, geography, and general science, he was perfectly familiar. But these things, which in a worldly point of view, might have been gain to him, he was enabled, for Christ's sake, to count but loss. From the moment that he devoted himself to the arduous but honorable work of a Missionary, he seemed to value his attainments, only in proportion to the opportunities afforded him, of employing them for the advancement of that work. And now that his warfare is ended, and his service on earth is closed, it is impossible to reflect, without feelings of fervent gratitude to the Lord, upon the abundant blessing wherewith his unwearied labors were crowned. Under his faithful and judicious administration, the Mission in South Africa has been remarkably prospered and extended. On his arrival at the Cape, in the year 1817, he found two settlements, with Hottentot congregations of about 1600 souls attached to them, and a third ready to be formed, near the eastern border of the colony. He lived to see the establishment of five additional Stations, including one among the Tambookies, and among the Fingoos, and to witness the collection of native flocks, amounting to nearly 4500 souls, to whose spiritual and temporal prosperity, himself and his brethren were permitted to minister. And for this ministration, he shewed himself to be eminently qualified. The love of Christ, shed abroad in his heart by the Holy spirit, was the constraining principle, by which he was impelled to devote to the service of God and his fellow-men, the various talents and acquirements which he possessed, and which indeed were of no common order. In him, a powerful mind was united with an affectionate spirit; a capacity for generalization, with a readiness to enter into the smallest details; great ability in direction, with surprising facility of execution; originality of thought, with sterling sense, and a decided preference for whatever was practical and useful. His plans were ordinarily marked by solid judgment, though his temper was naturally ardent and impetuous; and in the transaction of business, he exhibited uncommon regularity, energy, and despatch. The introduction and maintenance of order was an object very dear to him, and as he practised what he inculcated, he found the less difficulty in inducing others to observe it. For the conduct of the temporal affairs of the Mission, he displayed as much ability, as for the superintendence of its spiritual concerns. His financial views were sound, and his acquaintance with many of the branches of business, carried on at Genadendal for the benefit of the Mission, minute as well as accurate. He shewed himself, in fact, as able as he was willing, to put his hand to anything, which was required to be done, for the advancement of the work which was so near his heart, or the good of the people to whom he was so strongly attached, and by whom he was beloved and esteemed as a father and a friend. In the drawing up of an extensive and complicated financial statement, or in the establishment of a new branch of business,—in the erection of houses, or in the planting of groves,—in the laying out of gardens

or fields, or in providing means for their irrigation,—our late Brother seemed equally at home. No Hottentot or enfranchised slave found him otherwise than ready, at all times, to give him counsel in temporal, as well as instruction in spiritual things. His love for children, and his deep interest in the work of education, are sufficiently attested by the extension and prosperity of the schools at Genadendal, and especially by the establishment of the institution for native assistants, and the infant school, of which for a considerable time he undertook the chief management. To the gifts and grace he displayed, as a spiritual overseer, the progress of the Mission in general, and of the numerous flock committed to his more immediate pastoral care, bear a testimony, alike cheering and indisputable,—a testimony, the force of which will be deeply felt, by all who have been in the habit of perusing his lively and interesting correspondence, in the pages of this journal. Though by no means an eloquent preacher, his discourses were scriptural and experimental, delivered with great warmth of heart, and accompanied with the demonstration of the Spirit and of power. Of the importance which he attached to the close personal intercourse with individuals, which is a leading feature of the Brethren's Missionary system, the very last letter, addressed to the Secretary of the Society, affords a striking evidence.

In fine, our late dear Brother was a man, of whom it may be declared with truth, that he was not unworthy to be invested with the office, and to perform the functions of the first Christian Bishop in Southern Africa. But the Master whom he served, even the Chief Shepherd and Bishop of souls, has been pleased to release him unexpectedly from the charge of His earthly flock, and to make him a partaker of the privileges of His heavenly fold. While, therefore, we sorrow over the loss which has been sustained by the militant church, we desire to bow with submission beneath the sovereign and mighty hand of Him, who, while He sees fit to remove instruments, which we are apt to deem essential to the prosecution of the work He has assigned to them, is able also to qualify others less gifted to be the means of accomplishing His gracious purposes.

Meanwhile, may the farewell blessing of our departed Brother rest upon the Mission, to whose service so large a portion of his active life was devoted; and may his solemn dying charge make the desired impression upon the hearts of all his fellow-servants, throughout the Brethren's Unity, and especially of those, to whom it was more immediately addressed! May they be enabled, to keep the word of Jesus' patience—to feed and tend with faithfulness the flocks to whom they are called to minister,—and to maintain unbroken and unimpaired the bond of brotherly love; that so, "when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, they may receive the crown of glory, that fadeth not away."

EXTRACT OF THE DIARY OF GENADENDAL, FOR THE YEAR 1839.

February 10th. After the public service was the funeral of the communicant Sister, Elizabeth Tantje, who was universally respected as an experienced follower of Jesus. Heavy trials had been her lot, in the worldly-minded conduct of her son, who is excluded from the congregation, and the domestic unhappiness of her daughter, who is unsuitably married. "The circumstances of my children," she remarked, make my departure painful. Were but my son truly converted, that I might cherish the hope of seeing him in heaven!"

On the 27th, the Brn. Brauer, Franke, and Schopman, attended, by invitation, the funeral of the late Mrs. Badenhorst, one of our nearest neighbors. She was a sincere child of God, and was called to pass through much tribulation into His heavenly kingdom. Sickness had confined her, for many years, to her room, if not to her bed; but she honored her Saviour, in this affliction, by a meek and patient spirit. A prayer, and a short discourse on the words of St. Paul—"I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us," were listened to with deep attention and evident emotion by the numerous company of mourners.

March 16th, was the funeral of the aged Brother, Moses Beukes, who had been a communicant since the year 1816. Two years ago, he was deprived of his speech by an apoplectic stroke. Since then he often called upon us, and it was affecting to see his eagerness to express his feelings by signs, and the joy he manifested, when his attempts to make himself understood proved successful.

On the 22d, and following days, Br. and Sr. Schopman spoke with all the classes of the congregation, excepting the communicants; and never since the establishment of Genadendal was a general speaking so numerously attended. Still more encouraging, however, than the number, was the spirit of the people. The emancipated slaves seem animated by an uncommon desire after spiritual blessings; there is a fire in their hearts, which has not been kindled by man, but by the Spirit of God. Freedom appears, by the Divine blessing, to have awoke within their minds the feeling, that they are beings who belong not to time only, but to eternity. "The chains," said one of them, "were on my limbs from infancy; I could not come to the House of God, but was obliged to live like a brute. Now God has broken my chains, and I am here; but my heart is quite a blank; I am old, and can understand but little. My God! let but some drops of heavenly dew fall upon my barren soul."

April. Immediately after the Easter festival, the measles, which had made their appearance in Cape-Town in February, became rife in our place; and, by the end of the first week, considerably more than half of the inhabitants, young and old alike, were attacked by

the epidemic. It was great cause for thankfulness to the Lord, that it assumed so mild a character.

In the second week, there was not a house which did not contain from two to a dozen sick. Those, however, who had been first seized, were, many of them, sufficiently recovered to wait upon the rest. The schools had, necessarily, to be suspended for a short time.

On the 20*th*, was the interment of Theodore Nill, the first who fell a victim to the prevailing malady. He had been but recently baptized, on which solemn occasion, he appeared to give himself up to the Lord, not in words only, but with his whole heart.

Before the end of the month, fourteen children were also called into eternity.

May 5*th*, Br. Hallbeck preached at Matjes-gat, two leagues distant, by the desire of Mr. Greenwald, the proprietor, who has been united with us in spirit for many years. Most of the colonists in the immediate neighborhood were present with their work-people, and we hope to see it become a regular preaching station.

At a love-feast, with our school-children, on *Whit-Monday*, we brought our tribute of thanksgiving to the Lord, for His mercy, on the cessation of the measles in our place. Between 1200 and 1300 persons have had them since Easter, few of the inhabitants having escaped. We recognized it as a gracious providence, that the disorder was permitted to come on before the wet and cold winter months. Had it been delayed till June and July, its effects, both at the time and subsequently, would, in all probability, have been incomparably more distressing.

June 7*th*. Old Luke Stompje departed this life. Being too infirm to work, and having no relations to take care of him, he was wretchedly poor. His extreme deafness rendered it impossible to hold any conversation with him ; it was plain, however, from his expressions, that he was not without a feeling of the Saviour's love to sinners ; and the lively gratitude which he expressed for any temporal assistance that was rendered him, leads us to hope, that he was not unthankful for the greatest of all benefits—the redemption of his soul.

On the same day was the funeral of Wilhelmina Coert, who had also been a communicant for many years. Latterly, she had absented herself for a long period from the House of God. This may, occasionally, have been owing to the infirmities of age ; but the main reason, we fear, was a want of hunger and thirst for the Word of Life, and her heart seemed, in consequence, to be very dark and desolate.

On the 10*th*, the communicant Brother, Isaac Uis, departed. He was baptized in the year 1834, and was one of the most valuable members of our congregation. By diligence and frugality in early life, he had laid by a small capital, which enabled him to purchase the freedom of his wife and children, and made him comfortable in his declining years. His words and actions shewed, that he had not only a clear apprehension of Divine truth, but a sincere love to God his Saviour. Our intercourse with him was very pleasant to us;

and, in his illness, it was delightful to sit by his bed, and listen to the humble and cheerful effusions of his faith and hope. Nor did the order and cleanliness which reigned in his dwelling, fail to enhance the pleasure of our visits.

July 4th. We spoke individually with our communicants, in reference to the approaching enjoyment of the Lord's Supper. One Brother told us, what blessings he had found in the daily perusal of his Bible, before going to his work in the morning. "What I have read," said he, "generally abides with me through the day; it is like food that never loses its relish."

On the 10*th*, was the departure of the aged Brother, Johannes Rochert, who had been a communicant since 1809. He was one of the first Hottentots who belonged to the renewed Mission, and continued to his end a faithful member of the congregation. The singular cheerfulness of his spirit at his advanced age, flowed from his assurance of faith in the Saviour, of whose love and faithfulness towards him he often spoke with deep emotion. His outward wants were dutifully provided for by his children.

On the 25*th*, departed the communicant Brother, Blaauw, who had faithfully discharged the duties of an overseer. He was one of the wealthiest inhabitants of Genadendal, his property consisting chiefly in cattle, particularly horses. These were his favorites, and his heart cleaved to them, perhaps more than was good for him, as he would himself frequently complain. When, therefore, one after another of his fine animals were carried off by the epidemic, till not one remained, we were astonished to find him manifest the greatest resignation; not a murmur escaping his lips. "It is well," he said, "that my horses are gone. Now I can enjoy my Saviour's fellowship more uninterruptedly, and look forward more calmly to the hour, when it shall please Him to take me to Himself."

August 25*th*. A proposal was made to us by Mr. Kelter, the proprietor of one of the largest and finest farms in this district, to commence Divine service every fortnight at *Matjesdrift*, about three leagues from hence. On the 8th, Br. Hallbeck preached there for the first time.

17*th*. Two corpses were interred. Old David Vyf had long been a communicant. In the course of his last illness, we found him one day weeping bitterly. He complained that he could find no comfort, and when told, that he should look in faith to the Redeemer's merits, he replied—"I cannot pray, nor take hold of my Saviour." He thought that, having often forgotten the Lord in former days, he could not now expect to be favored with His presence. We exhorted him, to seek the Lord with earnestness and perseverance, and He would have mercy on him, and grant him the comfort which He died to procure for us. The other, the single Brother, Abraham Engel, was also an old man, and being of tall stature, his snow-white locks were very conspicuous amongst his brethren on festival occasions, while, in word and walk, he conducted himself as a child of God. Hence we were wont to call him the crown of this division of the flock.

October 5th. Br. Schopman went to Kopjes-kasteel, and conversed individually with about twenty members of our congregation there. The meetings were also numerously attended.

On the 30*th* and 31*st*, was the annual examination of our two schools. About eighty boys and ninety girls were present,—a smaller number than usual, owing to its being held a month later. After Br. Hallbeck had opened the proceedings in a short discourse, the children read a chapter from the New Testament in English, which they then translated into Dutch. English translating followed, and next Geography, the boys being questioned on Palestine, and the girls on Africa. Bible history concluded. Between the different exercises, English and Dutch verses were repeated by the boys, and sung by the girls. After a distribution of some English Tracts, the business of the day was closed with a fervent prayer.

November 6th. Towards ten o'clock in the evening, our venerable Sr. Kohrhammer gently fell asleep in Jesus, in her 83d year. The event was made known to the congregation next morning, and excited universal sympathy. Her funeral, which took place the same day in the afternoon, was attended by the whole congregation in their Sunday attire, and likewise by many friends from the neighborhood.*

25*th.* The communicant Sister, Johanna Magdalena Fredericks, departed this life. As long as she was able, she discharged the duties of chapel-servant and school-teacher with exemplary faithfulness. In the latter office, she was particularly useful, and her judicious and affectionate admonitions were much blessed to the children. She had, indeed, a happy talent for speaking a word in season, which she improved to the advantage of her friends, both old and young. Her faith and patience were severely tried by the frightful Lazarus, sickness, from which she had to suffer many years. What grieved her most was, that she could scarcely ever attend at church during this illness. "Oh!" she said, "the Word is to my heart what the rain is to the ground; I am dried up like the desert. Would but my Saviour help me so far, that I could again repair to His house!" For the rest, she shewed great patience in her suffering state, and appeared to spend her days in peaceful communion with her Lord.

In the course of the year, 430 persons received permission to live in our place, 167 departed this life, 63 were born, and 142 baptized.

The congregation consisted, at the close of 1839, of 666 communicants, 124 candidates for the Lord's Supper, 134 baptized adults, 379 baptized children, 212 candidates for baptism, 484 new people, 14 excluded—Total 2013, being 294 more than last year.

H. P. Hallbeck, J. F. Stein,
H. B. Schopman, I. A. De Fries,
C. G. Sonderman, P. H. Brauer,
C. G. Kuster.

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* See Memoir—below.

EXTRACT FROM THE DIARY OF CLARKSON, ON THE ZITZIKAMMA, FROM JULY TO DECEMBER, 1839.

July 12*th*. Br. Kuster, having been united in marriage to Sr. Wilhelmina Lesser, at Enon, arrived here in safety with his wife, after a somewhat adventurous journey.

On the 19*th*, the Fingoos, Hottentots, and Free Negroes received their respective allotments of garden-ground, which we had measured out for them the day before. All were greatly pleased with their portions, excepting the Fingoos, who would rather, according to their custom, clear plots on the edge of the wood, by burning down the trees, than cultivate the land on the open plain.

About this time, the measles made their appearance amongst us, and many of the inhabitants of our little settlement were attacked by them. The Fingoos also were sufferers from this complaint, hitherto quite unknown to them, so that the attendance at church was very slender.

23*rd*. On this and the following day, we were employed in digging a trench round our house, in order to carry off the water, as we had been much incommoded by the damp.

28*th*. Nearly 150 Fingoos were present at the public service, which, owing to the weather, was held in the small Hottentot house.

August 5*th*. We were surprised to see an unusual concourse of Fingoos from the neighborhood. In the afternoon, a deputation came to us, stating, that their object was to prevail on us to grant them gardens on the side of our wood. We observed to them, that there was no occasion for such a concourse of Fingoos not belonging to the settlement; and, having made our people promise not to injure the trees, we acceded to their request for another year, that they might have more time for preparing their allotments against the season following. On this they expressed great satisfaction, and Mangaba, the captain, begged, that if we noticed anything wrong in their conduct, we would direct their attention to it. "We are," said he, "like a flock of sheep wandering at large without a shepherd, not knowing whether we are doing mischief or not. You must, therefore, guide and direct us." This, we assured him, we were quite ready to do, having come amongst them on purpose to turn them from their errors into the right way.

Though we had wished to partake of the Lord's Supper on the 13*th*, in fellowship of spirit with all the congregations of our church, we were obliged, by the indisposition of several of our number, to defer it to Sunday the 18th, when, after a long interval, we once more approached the table of the Lord, and were refreshed and strengthened by the enjoyment of His body and blood.

At the general speaking with our people, we were encouraged by evident proofs that the Spirit of God was actively engaged in the hearts of many. A Fingoo said—"I find a great difference between this place and Caffraria. There men live in constant strife and hostility; but here, where the Word of God is pro-

claimed, they live in peace and harmony." Another said—"I should like to obtain the bliss of Heaven, but I do not know how. In order to be rich, I have long followed my captain, and a considerable time elapsed before I gained my desire. So, I suppose, it will be with heavenly happiness; I cannot obtain it at once; I must persevere and not flag; that, at last, I may win the treasures of Heaven." A Fingoo woman said—"I would gladly buy God, if He was to be bought with money;" on which she was told, that, though money would not buy Him, yet all men might become possessed of Christ as their Redeemer and their portion, by faith in Him.

Towards the close of the month, Br. Nauhaus had a large plot of ground ploughed up for maize and vegetables, and fenced round with paling from the cattle. In this, as in other labors, we were often interrupted by heavy rain.

September 3rd. Having purchased a number of spades at Port Elizabeth, for which his Excellency the Governor-General had supplied the means, we assembled our Fingoos, and presented ten heads of families with these valuable implements, of which they promised to make good use.

11*th.* The rain fell in torrents, flooding our kitchen and the oven, in which a large batch of bread was baking. Happily it was rescued, with some exertion, before it was completely spoilt. It was several days before the pouring rain abated.

22*nd.* Br. Hallbeck arrived here on a visit, sooner than we had ventured to expect him, in the unfavorable state of the weather, and took leave of us October 12th.

October 16th. We measured and marked off the ground for a school-house, 60 feet by 24.

19*th.* The cattle having frequently done mischief in the yet uninclosed gardens, we called a meeting of our Hottentots and Negroes, and represented to them the necessity of erecting a durable kraal, or cattle-fold, where they might be penned up at night, and of keeping a constant watch over them by day. They promised that it should be done, and on the 23rd the kraal was finished. It stands on the hill behind their gardens.

About this time also, the Fingoos were busy in ploughing up the gardens newly allotted to them. Mangaba, their captain, was the first to sow his ground.

November 3rd. Owing to the heavy rain, none of the more distant Fingoos could attend Divine service. We were the better pleased to see about fifteen of the elder girls, who in spite of the weather, had come three miles and more to the meetings.

18*th.* Br. Nauhaus, with nine men to assist, commenced cutting the water-course from the neighboring brook to our place, the trench being begun just below the junction of the two streams.

On the 20th, Br. and Sr. Lemmertz arrived from Genadendal, on their way to Enon, bringing with them a horse, which Br. Hallbeck had left for us, on his journey home, at one of the farms

on the road. It will greatly facilitate our visits to the remoter Fingoo kraals.

22*nd.* Finding it necessary to keep two teams of oxen, in order that they may by turns, have a change of sweeter pasturage at Enon, Br. Nauhaus purchased twelve fresh oxen of Mr. Hyman, and our old ones took Br. and Sr. Lemmertz forwards to Enon on the 24th.

In the course of the month, most of the Fingoos had planted their new gardens; and we were glad to find, that they had got the better of their superstitious scruples as to the use of manure. In common with other Caffres, they had entertained the notion, that, if they manured the ground with the dung of their cattle, the latter would die.

The weather, during the whole month, was hot and dry, which deserves notice as something extraordinary with us.

On *December 6th*, was the interment of an old free negro, who had shortly before been admitted as a candidate for baptism. One rainy night, the roof of his miserable hovel, which had formerly served as a goat-house, fell in upon him; and though he was not materially hurt, the cold and wet probably hastened his end, as he had been ailing for some time.

After the preaching on the 22nd, we announced to the Fingoos, that our Saviour's Nativity would be celebrated on the Wednesday following, when they promised to attend. Through a mistake in their reckoning, they came on the 24th instead; this did not, however, prevent them from returning next day, when we discoursed to them on that great mystery of godliness—God manifest in the flesh. Oh that they may all learn to worship aright that wondrous Child, who is the source of all our happiness!

We were truly thankful, to be able to make use of our new kitchen after Christmas, the old one having been poorly protected against the violent rains and storms, which are so frequent in the Zitzikamma.

On the 31st, we concluded our Mission-conferences for the year, at the feet of our faithful Lord, under a deep sense of the numerous defects and blemishes which had marked our services. Thankful for all the help and mercy which He had shewn us, in the ten months that had elapsed since the commencement of this new station; and confidently trusting, that He would continue to be our support and counsellor in all perplexities, we entered upon another year, commending ourselves and His cause anew to His heart of love.

The congregation at Clarkson consisted, at the close of 1839, of 10 baptized adults, 8 of whom are communicants, 13 baptized children, 5 candidates for baptism, 88 new people—Total, 116 souls.

C. F. Nauhaus, C. A. Küster.

EXTRACT OF LETTERS FROM BR. H. P. HALLBECK.

"*Genadendal, September 10th*, 1840.

"Dear Brother,—My last letter stated, that Br. Theod. Küster had been called to Shiloh. He left us accordingly on the 6th of August, with a view to be at hand, when a ship should be

ready to sail from Cape-town to Algoa Bay. During his stay of several weeks at Groenekloof, he gave his assistance in the schools, and his services were the more acceptable, as Br. Franke had, for some time, been confined to his room and bed, by a rheumatic complaint. Meanwhile, Br. and Sr. Gysin have entered on their duties in our seminary here; and I have no doubt, it is their earnest desire, to serve our Saviour and His cause with faithfulness. Previous to the departure of Br. Küster, we had an interesting examination, which proved, that the pupils had made good use of their time, and, I believe, stimulated them to renewed exertions. The eldest of the boys, now in his seventeenth year, whose conduct has always been as steady as his proficiency is creditable, will, probably, be soon employed as regular teacher in our infant-school, and assistant in the boys' school, in order that Ezek. Pfeiffer may be able to lend us more of his valuable assistance among the more advanced children, both boys and girls. In a few days, we are going to have the usual September examinations with the various schools; but before that time, I must pay a short visit to our interesting out-station, Kopjes-kasteel. On the 19th ult., I was there, assisting at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new chapel, which will be 50 feet by 19 feet inside; and the work is now so far advanced, that we hope to put in the beams next week. It is a pleasure to see, with what cheerfulness and alacrity the people, both of this place and of Kopjes-kasteel, engage in a work, which they feel to be of the utmost importance, both to themselves and to their posterity. Nor do their white neighbors feel less interested in the undertaking, many of whom came, with all their people, to join in supplications with us at the commencement of the work, though it happened to be in the middle of the week, and they thus lost a whole day's labor in their fields or in their gardens. Meanwhile, the Missionary work is here prosecuted in the usual manner, and not without the blessing of our Saviour; and we have reason to hope, that it is not only extending in its dimensions, but also increasing in strength and solidity. It is, indeed, encouraging, to see the great eagerness and earnestness, with which the people avail themselves of the means of grace, and to observe how the minds of those who were but lately ignorant and unconcerned, are gradually opened for the benign influence of the Gospel. You are aware, that the 7th of September has more than once been a day of signal blessing to our whole congregation; and I have every reason to believe, that this was again the case on Monday last. More people than ever before were present on that solemn occasion; no fewer than 250 married couples, besides 70 to 80 individuals, whose husbands or wives were unavoidably absent, attended the previous speaking and the festal meetings, and afforded us much edification, by the simplicity of their faith, and the fervency of their love. Seventeen men and four women, all married persons, received holy baptism, making the number of adults, baptized here since the

new year, 104; and an equal number were admitted as candidates for baptism. It was, indeed, highly interesting, during this solemn transaction, to witness the intense devotion of the happy catechumens, the lively expressions of joy in the countenances of sympathizing friends and relations, the tear of grief and disappointment on the sable cheeks of those, who were longing for the same favor, but have still to possess their souls in patience, and the fixed attention of the crowded auditory to every part of the solemn service. May the impression, evidently made on many present, prove abiding, and lead to a real change of heart! Though we must, of course, expect, from time to time, to discover tares among the wheat, and our increased numbers do require double attention to the conduct of individuals: yet we certainly live in a peculiarly blessed harvest season, and may well count ourselves highly favored, to behold this remarkable display of Divine goodness to those who were formerly, in a manner, excluded from the kingdom of God (viz. the manumitted slaves.) Ignorant and unlettered as many of them are, their simple reliance on the Saviour, and their anxiety to advance in His knowledge and grace, may well put many of us, who are and have been more favored, to the blush, and remind us of the Saviour's words —'Many that are first shall be last, and the last first.' Br. Bonatz will, probably, give you an account of affairs at Shiloh in the inclosed letter, and inform you, that he had the favor, in July, to baptize three females. The men appear to be filled with unbelief; and form, in this respect, a remarkable contrast to the population in *these* parts. At Enon there was also, in July, a baptism of two adults, and two became partakers of the Holy Communion, for the first time. From Clarkson and Elim, I have heard nothing particular, since the date of my last letter to you. Sr. Fritsch, in Hemel-en-Aarde, continues very feeble and infirm. Br. and Sr. Schopman, whose youngest son departed this life in June, have again been called to mourn over the loss of another dear child—their eldest son, Henry, a weakly child, having been translated to a better world on the 14th of August, by means of a typhus fever. They have now only one son left. The rest of our family are now tolerably well, and our Saviour has preserved our place and neighborhood from the contagion of the small-pox, which appears to have ceased in all the surrounding districts. Single cases are, however, still said to occur in Graham's Town and Uitenhage. Provisions are gradually returning to their former prices, and are much cheaper than in the beginning of the year. The people around us suffer no want; and, in addition to their usual resources, are now again busy collecting bukku-leaves—a quantity of 3000lb. having been ordered by a Cape-town merchant, at a remunerating price. It is really interesting to see them, in companies of from twenty to fifty individuals, descending from the mountains every evening in long rows, loaded with this useful drug. I have again, during the months past, taken care to extend our plantations, which become,

from year to year, more profitable, and supply a variety of advantages and conveniences to our establishment, such as fuel for the kitchen, bark for the tan-yard, and wood for building. Thus, all the timber wanted for the chapel at Kopjes-kasteel, has been cut in groves, without thinning them in any perceptible degree. Some years ago, you kindly procured me a terrestial globe of eighteen inches diameter, which is made good use of. If it is not giving you too much trouble, I would beg you to procure for our Hottentot institution a corresponding celestial globe."

"*October* 22*d*, 1840.

"In the midst of many difficult and embarrassing circumstances, our Lord administers help and consolation from day to day; and it is peculiarly encouraging to find, that, notwithstanding our manifold defects and short-comings, the work of God is steadily on the increase; as if to shew us, that our great Master is not dependent on good instruments, but can accomplish His purposes by the most imperfect tools—nay, sometimes without human agency, or by the instrumentality of his very enemies or opposers.

"Since the date of my last letter, I have had a very busy season; and, among the rest, have been engaged, with my wife, *in speaking with every individual, belonging to the various classes of our numerous congregation.** This duty, though fatiguing both to body and mind, has again been the means of raising my spirits, by the many evidences of the Lord's blessing attending our labors, which have come to my knowledge, and by the great increase of numbers to our congregation, which we have witnessed, and which has had a blessed and enlivening influence on both young and old. Since the beginning of this month, 45 adults have become candidates for holy baptism; 30 adults, including 3 from Kopjes-kasteel, have been baptized; 5 have been received; 23 become candidates for baptism; and 8 are under instruction previous to their partaking of the Holy Communion. Our congregation now consists of more than 1500 baptized persons, and nearly 700 candidates and new people; and it is particularly gratifying and cheering, when looking forwards into futurity, to observe the right spirit prevailing among the latter, and their earnest desire, to grow in the love and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ; whence we cherish the hope, that future years will not be inferior to the present, in yielding a plentiful harvest for the kingdom of Christ. I was glad to hear, a few days ago, from a pious and zealous minister of the Gospel in Cape-town, that the same earnestness in seeking the one thing needful, which is so remarkable in most Missionary stations in the colony, prevails among the heathen population of that place. O! may it continue and increase, until all have been gained for our Saviour!

"Besides the solemn and impressive services, occasioned by the

* The last service of the kind performed by our dear Brother:—his farewell effort, to put the flock committed to his charge, individually, in remembrance of the things which belonged to their peace. (2 Peter i. 12--14).--*Ed.*

above mentioned advances in the privileges of the church, the beginning of this month was signalized by another unusual occurrence, of a different nature, our place having been honored with a visit from our respected Governor, General Napier, Lady Napier, their two sons and suite, on the 8th and 9th inst., on which occasion, we were again assured of the favour and good-will of his Excellency and his amiable consort. Our institutions for education were a particular object of their kind attention, and they appeared to feel deeply interested in this branch of our labors. They devoted half a day to attendance at the examination of our various schools, which, on this occasion, counted just as many pupils as there are days in the year, though a considerable number of the children could not attend, being engaged in weeding the fields, or in other labours of husbandry and gardening. Such a collection of children under instruction, in a country so thinly inhabited, could not but strike them as something extraordinary; and I am sure they will not have such a sight throughout the colony. They appeared, indeed, to be both delighted and surprised at the proficiency of the more advanced children. They spoke with much interest of our labor among the Fingoos, and expressed their intention, if the roads do not oppose very serious obstacles, to visit both Clarkson and Shiloh. If they are able to execute their plan, they will have been at Clarkson the day before yesterday, for they are expected at Uitenhage to-morrow. With the exception of Br. Sonderman's deafness, all the Brethren and Sisters are well, and by the mercy of our Saviour, laboring together in love and harmony. Br. Theo. Küster, who sailed from Table Bay on the 3d of September, arrived safe in Algoa Bay on the 8th, and there met his brother, who took him on a visit to the Zitzikamma, whence he started for Enon and Shiloh on the 28th.

"Sr. Nauhaus has been delivered of a son on the 18th, and had subsequently suffered much from an ulcer in the breast; but was better when the last letters left Clarkson. There had been some difficulties with the Fingoos, in consequence of their attempting to sell their daughters, and compel them to marry, according to their former heathenish customs; but the Government functionaries had supported the Brethren in checking this evil; and it is a consolation to know, that many Fingoos are also on the side of the Missionaries, and condemn this barbarous custom. Some of Captain Blaatje's old counsellors, imagining, not without reason, that he is influenced by the Missionaries, endeavored to persuade him to remove to a distance, that he might be able to act in a more independent manner; but his wife, Nofatje, a candidate for baptism, absolutely refused to leave the Missionaries and the Word of God, and thus frustrated the scheme of the old fellows, and Blaatje was afterwards glad that he had yielded to the entreaties of his beloved Nofatje.

"From Enon and Shiloh, I have had no advice since my last letter to you. Our chapel in Kopjes-kasteel is half thatched, and as soon as thatching materials can be collected, it will be completed, probably before the approaching harvest. Br. and Sr. Fritsch have gone to Stellenbosch, to obtain medical advice from an experienced

physician, and Br. Luttring is meanwhile stationed at the Leper Institution, where three adults were baptized a few weeks ago.

"From Elim, I have nothing of importance to report, except that the Missionaries are well, and the congregation in its usual course. As soon as Br. and Sr. Luttring returned from Hemel-en-Aarde, they intended to have the usual quarterly speaking.

"On the 7th of September, Br. Franke held the first baptism since his ordination, when seven adults were added to the congregation at Groenekloof by that holy rite. According to the last letters, all the Brethren and Sisters at that station were well.

"Thus far the weather has been favorable. There will be an abundant harvest of oats, and barley, which has already partially commenced; and, if we are preserved from the destroying *rust*, which is still uncertain, we may except an equally good crop of wheat. Provisions are no more so exorbitantly dear as they have been the last two years; and if the present prospect of a good harvest is realized, a further reduction may be expected. Our gardens and orchards are also in excellent order, and twice as extensive as a year or two ago. Strangers and neighbours are not a little astonished, to see thus unexpectedly the vast palmiet (reed) flats around us turned into smiling gardens, and I was surprised myself, a few days ago, when I had to wander through the endless labyrinth of new inclosures, for the sake of suggesting some improvements, for the irrigation of the whole, which have since been executed.

"H. P. Hallbeck."

FROM BROTHER H. B. SCHOPMAN.

"*Genadendal, December 1st*, 1840.

"Dear Brother,—You will be distressed, indeed, by the intelligence, which it becomes my painful duty to communicate,—the translation to eternal rest of our beloved Brother Halbeck, which took place on the 25th ult., at six o'clock in the evening. This is a severe blow to the Mission in South Africa, and to all ministering servants; and one which has involved us in the deepest mourning and perplexity, as you may well conceive. But it is from the hand of our gracious Lord, and we know, that what He doeth must be right.

"It was on the 13th of November, that our dear Brother first complained of a pain in one cheek. Though he made little account of it, he was induced to transfer to another Brother, the holding of the evening service, and to keep to the house, for the next few days. On Monday, the 16th, it became evident, that an abscess was forming within the mouth. We became uneasy, and more than once urged upon him the propriety of sending for Dr. O'Flinn, of Stellenbosch, —a skilful and experienced physician, and a friend of our late Brother. But his reply to all our entreaties was—'It is my old affection of the throat, which attacks me now for the fifth time; no doctor understands its nature better than I do myself.' Not till the 19th, after a night in which the patient had experienced a serious accession of fever, did he give us leave to call in the doctor. The messenger was

hastily despatched; and, meanwhile, we began to hope that the abscess would soon break, and that, as in former cases of a similar kind, recovery would speedily follow. But on Friday the 20th, the other cheek began to swell; and on the Saturday we had reason to believe, that erysipelas was added to the original malady,—an opinion which Dr. O'Flinn, who arrived about noon, confirmed. The doctor administered an emetic to the patient, which, however, failed of effect, at which he expressed himself both disappointed and uneasy. Towards evening, the abscess broke. 'The erysipelas,' observed the doctor, 'will have its time. It varies greatly in its intensity, but by degrees wears itself out.' On hearing this, we resumed our courage, and entertained fresh hopes of a favorable issue. At noon, on Sunday, the doctor returned to Stellenbosch. The following day, the 23rd, the complaint appeared to increase, and the fever became more violent. Towards evening he sent for me—expressed to me his belief, that this illness would be the means of his departure, and gave me some commissions having reference to that event. I remained with him till one o'clock in the morning, and was greatly edified by his affectionate and emphatic declarations, some of which I noted down at the time. He prayed fervently on behalf of his dear wife and children, and commended them into the faithful hands of his Saviour. At one o'clock, Br. Fries came to relieve me, and I lay down to take some rest, having previously written a letter to Dr. Honey, of Caledon, begging him to come over to us with all speed. At four, I was called again, the fever having risen to such a height as to produce delirium. As soon as the paroxysm had subsided, I wrote to Br. Teutsch, begging him to hasten to us, and likewise to Dr. O'Flinn, requesting his further aid. About eight o'clock in the morning Dr. Honey arrived, and bled the patient, who was hereby sensibly relieved. During the remainder of the day, he lay quite tranquil, but rambled, more or less, in the course of the night following. On the morning of the 25th, consciousness was completely restored. At his request we all assembled round his bed—the Sisters remaining in the ante-room; whereupon he took a solemn leave of our whole Mission-family. He spoke for a full hour, with a clear voice, and sufficiently loud to be understood by the Hottentots, who were standing near the window on the outside. His principal theme was the free grace of God in Christ Jesus. 'This,' said he, 'is the groundwork of our doctrine: on this every thing must rest.' He exhorted us to watch faithfully over the flock,—to see to it, that the progress of the kingdom of God was not hindered among us,—to care for the souls committed to our charge, to bear them in our hearts, that none might be lost.' 'All this,' I observed, 'we will do gladly; but we are so weak, so insufficient for such a charge;' to which he replied—'I know it well, and, therefore, it is not you that must do it—the Lord Himself must and will perform it.' He admonished us to love one another, to maintain the bond of peace and unity, and to hold fast the word of God and His truth. 'The world,' said he, 'will pass away, but the word of the Lord shall endure for ever.' He extolled the grace of Christ which he was enjoying, and which he assured us was

far greater than we could conceive. 'I have the Saviour,' he exclaimed, 'I am already with Him. O what unspeakable grace!' He then offered up a fervent intercessory prayer for us, for our congregation, and for the whole Missionary work, and pronounced the blessing upon us, concluding with a thrice repeated *Amen*. We were all melted into tears; forgot whatever was earthly; and our hearts were raised to things which are above, in a manner which we shall never forget. After an interval of about half an hour, we again assembled round his bed, and united in singing some verses, treating of our departure to the Lord, and the blessedness of the church triumphant. It was indescribably affecting, to hear with what fervency he joined in the verse—

'What heavenly joy and consolation
This hope affords unto my heart,
That Christ the God of my salvation
Will me receive when I depart,' &c.

(Hymn Book, No. 1188, 3.) The blessing of the Lord and of the church was then laid upon him, with reference to his approaching departure. The remainder of the day he lay quite tranquil. The peace of God appeared to surround him. His breathing became gradually shorter, till about six o'clock, when, without the smallest struggle, it gently ceased. Thus closed our beloved Brother Hallbeck his earthly pilgrimage and service. It is still like a dream, that we have lost him; but alas! it is, nevertheless, a mournful reality. Br. Teutsch has undertaken, at the unanimous request of our Conference, to administer the office held by our late Brother, till the determination of our Elders in reference to it can be ascertained. On the 27th ult, at eleven o'clock was the interment of his honored remains. Besides the members of our congregation, a great concourse of our friends and neighbors attended; and testified by their whole demeanor, how deeply they felt and deplored the loss which all had sustained. I could add much more, but the messenger is waiting for my letter. Do not forget us, and our bereaved flock, in your prayers."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

II. Memoir of Sr. Eve Dorothy Kohrhammer, who departed this life, at Genadendal, on the 6th of November, 1839, in the 83rd year of her age, after a Missionary service of more than 50 years in the Danish West Indies and South Africa.

[*Written by Herself.*]

I was born April 12th, 1757, at Neukirch, near Bautzen, in Saxony. My parents, Gottlob and Anna Elizabeth Lehmann, having been awakened by the Holy Spirit to a serious concern for their

souls, were intent on training me and the rest of their children for the Lord. As they were in connexion with the Brethren's Church, I had, from childhood, the privilege of attending the meetings of the small society in our village; and I can remember feeling, at a very early period, a desire to live unto our Saviour. A picture of the crucifixion, which hung in my mother's room, on one occasion deeply affected me; and I told my mother, in childlike simplicity, that as she had our Saviour drawn in the picture, so I had His picture in my heart, just as He hung upon the cross. An account which was given us, in one of the meetings of our society, of the children in the Brethren's congregations, made an indelible impression on my mind; and I prayed very earnestly to the Lord, that He would help me to love Him as they did. A strong desire arose within me, to live in a settlement of the Brethren, which was renewed every time that I visited Herrnhut.

Being once imprudently praised by one of my teachers, in the presence of my companions, and pointed out to them as a pattern, I quite lost my simplicity; and pride and self-complacency took possession of my heart. In addition to this, I fell into bad company at school, which did me great injury, so that all my love to our Saviour vanished, and the world would have gained the victory over me, had it not been for the blessing of the Lord on my parents' watchfulness. Nevertheless, I often contrived, unknown to them, to mix in improper company; and when they were, at length, made aware of it, they took it so deeply to heart, that my mother became seriously ill in consequence. My conscience, which had not been easy before, was now exceedingly disturbed: I thought, that, if my mother should die, my brothers and sisters would blame me, as the cause of their irreparable loss, and I prayed most fervently to the Lord to restore her to health. Nor did he suffer me to pray in vain.

The Holy Spirit now discovered to me more fully my natural sinfulness; I learned to know myself as corrupt throughout, and began to doubt whether I could possibly be saved; indeed, I wished, in my distress, that I had never been born, seeing no prospect before me but that of eternal misery. If, sometimes, a ray of hope enlivened my gloom, it was soon shut out again by returning unbelief. In my fourteenth year, I was instructed, previous to confirmation, by that eminent servant of God, the Rev. Mr. Reichel, minister of the parish of Neukirch, and the Holy Spirit made use of this opportunity to reclaim my wandering heart. Two days before the sacred rite was administered, I entered into a solemn covenant with the Redeemer of my soul, and promised the minister, as I gave him my trembling hand, that I would yield myself entirely to the Saviour, that He might do with me whatsoever He pleased. The blessings which I experienced on this occasion, and at my subsequent confirmation and first approach to the Lord's table, are yet fresh in my remembrance.

Not long after this happy period, I was acknowledged as a member of the Society connected with the Brethren's Church. But increasing self-knowledge brought with it fresh doubts and fears; and I was so tormented by the idea of being for ever lost, that I could

neither eat nor sleep, and my friends thought that I was in a consumption. A letter from my eldest brother, at Gnadau, added to my distress. "I often pray," he wrote, "that all my brothers and sisters may prosper for the Lord, and none of them be lost." The terrible thought oppressed me—"Thou art the only one in the family that is in this wretched case." Overwhelmed with grief, I retired to pour out my heart before the Lord, and, with many tears, implored Him to comfort me. He graciously heard my cry, and spoke peace to my troubled soul. At the same time, I obtained a settled confidence, that he had called me to the Brethern's Church, and would prepare the way for me to join it. Six years, however, still elapsed, before my wishes were realized; and in this interval, my constancy was put to a severe trial. Offers of marriage were made me; some of my relations did their utmost to divert me from my purpose; and the thought of parting from my parents was inexpressibly painful. Yet the Lord enabled me to adhere to my resolution, and to wait His time with patience. On one occasion, when I was praying for resignation to His will, my mother overheard me, and she was induced to give her free consent, to my joining the Brethren as soon as I pleased. About this time, I had a very narrow escape, from falling through a trap-door in the hayloft, as I was foddering the cows; and whenever I think of it, I thank the Lord for mercifully preserving my life. I derived much edification from the discourses of Pastor Reichel in the meetings of the Society, and one of them, especially, has left an indelible impression on my mind. It was opened with the hymn:—"Jesus thyself to us reveal," &c. (Hymn Book, No. 580). This hymn, and the subsequent address of our beloved minister, affected me deeply; and I was engaged the whole way home in praying to the Lord, that He would grant me, not merely a transient feeling of His grace, but the full forgiveness of all my sins, through His atoning merit. And he drew unspeakably near to my soul on this occasion.

In 1780, I, at length, received the desired permission to live at Herrnhut, and, July 8th, bade adieu to the paternal roof. It was my wish, to live alone to the Lord, who had paid so dearly for my soul's ransom; and I besought Him, to impart to me all that I required, for the strengthening of my faith, and the increase of spiritual life within me. At first, indeed, a want of openness in communicating with my spiritual superior, was a hinderance to my comfort; but this was, at length, granted me in answer to my prayer; and having, shortly after, the favor to be received into the congregation, my heart became light and cheerful. My first enjoyment of the Lord's Supper with the congregation, and the first festival of the single Sisters, which I celebrated, were also days of rich blessing to my soul. Still I did not possess that firm assurance of the forgiveness of my sins, which was vouchsafed to many, whose memoirs I had read, and this made me sometimes very uneasy. Meanwhile, in June, 1783, I was chosen a member of the company of intercessors; and being thus called to special prayer for others, I turned with renewed earnestness to the Lord, and, confessing my want of faith, implored Him to grant me the favor for which I sighed. And He was pleased to assure

me of His absolving grace. My heart leaped for joy; and I could now draw near to Him in childlike confidence, and lay before Him, not only my own concerns, but also those of my Brethren and Sisters, in believing supplication.

September 17th, 1784, I received a call, to serve the Lord in the Danish West Indies, and was married, on the 28th of the same month, to the single Brother, Thomas Lundberg. We set out, October 5th, for Copenhagen; and, after a voyage of six weeks, reached Friedensfeld, in St. Croix, on January 23rd, whence we proceeded, by the first opportunity, to New-Herrnhut, in St. Thomas. Towards the end of 1786, we removed to St. Croix. The Lord led me into an increasing knowledge of my own insufficiency, and of His grace; and gave me, from time to time, those renewed assurances of my individual acceptance, which I felt so needful for the cheerful and profitable discharge of my various duties. Thus, amongst other instances, He drew very near to me during a family lovefeast, at which the Missionaries met on Maundy Thursday, 1790; and I could enter into the spirit of the verse:—

> "God be praised, they who are His
> In this present dispensation,
> Nought essential ever miss,
> Since they share in Christ's Salvation,
> Though unseen, He's nigh to all
> Who in truth upon Him call."

Yet, I must humbly acknowledge, that, notwithstanding the patience and mercy shewn me by the Lord, many infirmities and failings marked my course. My naturally warm temper occasioned much trouble both to myself and others; and I am still a learner in the school of meekness and true humility.

In 1792, we moved from Bethany to Friedensberg, where a new Mission-house was in progress; but my dear husband declared his conviction, that he should never enter it, for that another house awaited him. As he appeared to enjoy better health here, than in any of the three other stations where we had resided, I was not a little startled at this declaration. But his words proved true; and, on February 1st, 1794, he was taken from me, after an illness of only three days, whilst I myself was lying in an almost hopeless state. My feelings can be imagined. only by such as have experienced a similar bereavement. None but God could comfort me, and He did comfort me.

Having a great desire to return to Europe, which my state of health, moreover, rendered advisable, I set out with my daughter, in company of Br. and Sr. Gottling. A fortnight after embarkation, the fever left me; but it returned again, in consequence of a cold which I took on the land journey, and when I reached Kleinwelke, where I had pleased myself with the prospect of meeting my son, after a long separation, I had to take to my bed again. Through the mercy of God, however, I soon recovered

from this relapse. But, in less than two months, my little daughter, whom I had placed in Kleinwelke school for her education, was taken to the heavenly fold by the Good Shepherd. A place was, meanwhile, found for me in the widows' house at Niesky, where I made much useful experience under the teaching of the Holy Spirit.

June 9th, 1797, I was called to the service of the Mission in South Africa, and was in that view united in marriage to Br. J. P. Kohrhammer, who was going out as Superintendent of that Mission. We set out from Herrnhut, July 3rd; and, travelling by way of Altona, arrived in London, September 2nd, after a tedious voyage. Here we had to wait upwards of five months for a vessel: and, at length, set sail from Portsmouth, February 17th, 1798, in company of a fleet. Danger threatened us, the very first night of our voyage, our ship twice running foul of others; and being unable, in consequence of the damage sustained, to keep up with the convoy, we were exposed to the numerous privateers which hovered round. Yet the remainder of the voyage proved safe and pleasant, and the calm weather which we met with under the line afforded an opportunity for putting the vessel to rights. We cast anchor in Table-Bay on Monday 6th. After spending some days very agreeably with our venerable friend, Martin Schmidt, we proceeded in a waggon to Bavianskloof, where we arrived on the 21st of the same month. A numerous company of Hottentot Brethren and Sisters met us two or three miles from the place, and the nearer we approached the greater was the conflux.* Amongst the rest, old Magdalena, the only surviving member of the late George Schmidt's congregation, came, carried by her friends, being too infirm at her advanced age to walk. Words cannot describe what I felt on this occasion; my emotion found vent in tears, and I lifted up my heart in fervent prayer to the Lord, that He would assist me, and preserve me from injuring so blessed a work as that whereof I was an eye-witness. It humbled me to feel the confidence which the Hottentot Sisters at once reposed in me; and the cry—"Help me! I am lost. Tell me what I must do to be saved," proceeded from increasing numbers. I accounted it a favor to assist my dear husband in his office to the best of my power, and all hardships and difficulties were lightened by our mutual harmony. The heavier was the stroke, when, June 6th, 1811, it pleased the Lord to make me a widow, for the second time, by means of his happy departure. After commending me to the Lord in fervent prayer, he closed his weary eyes, and sweetly exchanged faith for sight. My longing is, that I may soon, through mercy, be permitted to follow him."

Here her memoir concludes, omitting all particulars of her service in this Mission, and of the twenty-eight years of her widowhood. Her fellow servants, therefore, add the following:—

By the express desire of the Governor, General Jansen, Br. Kohrhammer acted as chaplain to the Hottentot corps quartered in the Vineyards, from the year 1804 till the commencement of 1806, when

* This was scarcely six years after the renewal of the Mission.—Ed.

the English took possession of the colony. Our late Sister was also usefully employed, at the first settling of Groenekloof, from May, 1808, to May, 1810. As widow, she accompanied Br. and Sr. Schmidt, and the Brn. Schulz, Hoffman, and Hornig, to the Witte river in 1815, assisted in the establishment of Enon, and shared the dangers of the Caffre war in the year following. After remaining another year at Uitenhage, she returned to Genadendal, where she spent the last twenty years of her life, taking her part in the Missionary work according to her strength, and sometimes beyond her strength, with exemplary faithfulness and punctuality. She was a pleasant and affectionate colleague; and so far from observing any traces of that warm and hasty temperament, of which she complains in her memoir, her intimate friends considered a mild conciliatory disposition to be a striking feature in her character. The Hottentots of her own sex found in her a faithful and sympathizing friend, who took the liveliest interest in their prosperity, both temporal and spiritual, and loved and revered her as a mother in Israel; and both old and young flocked to her dwelling, especially at each return of the monthly speaking. She was blessed with the full possession of her mental faculties to the last, and, considering her advanced age, enjoyed a tolerable share of health.

Not till a month or two before her departure, did she complain of an oppression on the chest, which did not, however, interrupt her attendance at the meetings. But, in September, (1839), a visible change took place, and evident symptoms of dropsy made their appearance. Confined now to her room, she was yet free from pain, and could sit up till two days before her end. As her strength declined, her desire to depart and to be with Christ increased; and, on the evening of November 6th, her desire was granted, in so gentle and sudden a manner, that, before her nurse could call in her neighbors, Br. and Sr. Stein, her emancipated spirit had quitted its worn-out tenement. Her pilgrimage lasted eighty-two years and seven months, of which more than fifty years were spent in Missionary service—ten in the Danish West Indies, and forty-one and a half in South Africa.

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

III. LABRADOR.

EXTRACTS OF PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE.

(Concluded from page 312.)

FROM NAIN.

"THE copies of the New Testament, with which we have been supplied through the kind liberality of the British and Foreign Bible Society, are a real treasure to our Esquimaux, who often inquired, in the course of last winter, whether they might soon expect to re-

ceive them. I wish our dear Christian friends in Europe could have witnessed the delight, which beamed in the countenances of the elder pupils in our school, when we distributed among them some of the copies of the Four Gospels, sent out to us last year. Many a tear stood in their eyes, and many an expression of gratitude to their unknown benefactors fell from their lips, mingled with the assurance, that the latter would be frequently remembered in their prayers. The new edition appears to give very general satisfaction. We hear from every quarter, that it is considered far more correct and intelligible than the former one. The Summary of Christian Doctrine, for which we are indebted to the kindness of the Religious Tract Society, proves also a valuable gift to our young people. It is in continual use among us, for their instruction in the truths of Scripture, and in the doctrine and precepts of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

"In the manuscript of the revised edition of the Hymn Book, which we send you, in the hope that your Society will kindly undertake the printing of it, you will find a considerable number of alterations, and I think I may add, of improvements. The old edition, printed in 1824, of which our stock is qute exhausted, we shall discontinue using, as soon as the new one reaches our hands.

"We feel much obliged to you, for sending us copies of the Periodical Accounts, Reports of the Bible Society, Missionary Register, and other similar publications. These afford us pleasant and profitable reading, during the long winter evenings, and supply us with many a subject for thought, and conversation, and intercession at the throne of grace.

"J. Lundberg."

"Among our communicants, are many whose walk truly adorns the Gospel. Our monthly conversations with them tend greatly to our encouragement; though it is to be observed, that some of the most approved of their number are of the fewest words. They confess that they are, as yet, very far from the mark which is set before them; but testify their earnest desire, to cleave to their Saviour, and become more and more like unto Him. Others express, in warm terms, their thankfulness for the privilege of hearing the Word of God; 'for what,' say they, 'should we be, if we had no teachers, who explain it to us. Do not, therefore, cease to speak to us, in the church, even though, at times, your words may be sharp. You do not speak in vain; though, it is true, there are still many, who do not attend as they ought to what you say, but live according to their own pleasure.' On these occasions, we gladly point to the blood of Jesus, as the only remedy for the hurts of our fallen nature,—the fountain opened for sin and for all uncleanness.

"C. G. Albrecht."

"Last winter I had again to suffer severely from indisposition, whereby I was often much hindered in my work. The Lord, how-

ever, approved Himself as my Good Physician, and soon after Easter, I recovered my health and my bodily energies, and was able to resume all my duties with a cheerful spirit. As soon as the weather permitted, we commenced the repair and enlargement of our church,—an occupation which seemed to agree wonderfully well with my health. We are particularly thankful for your promise, to send us a supply of European timber. for that which grows in this country, is good for little for building purposes. I hope, next year, to have a few more tracts translated; of late I have been unable to do any work of this kind.

"F. C. FRITSCHE."

FROM HOPEDALE.

"The year past has been a period of distinguished blessing for our Esquimaux flock. Our services at church, both on Sundays and week-days, the meetings for the several classes of the congregation, and for the religious instruction of the young, and the schools for both boys and girls, were diligently attended, and we had encouraging proofs that our labor was not in vain Not only had we the pleasure to re-admit to church-fellowship all the excluded who remained under our care, except two persons; but we had likewise the joy, to see nearly all the lost sheep, who had strayed from us and removed southwards, return to the fold, with expressions of sorrow and contrition for their faults, and the assurance of their desire and determination, to show more faithfulness for the time to come. The number of individuals attached to this station has thus received a consierable increase; it amounts, at present, to 207, the largest we have ever had upon our books. May the Lord give us the needful wisdom and grace to instruct them according to His mind, and to lead them in the way in which they should go! "J. P. STOCK."

"It has cost us much, to part with our dear children; their mother and myself feel quite desolate at finding ourselves, for the first time, without them. Yesterday, I accompanied them on board the Harmony. The sea was rough and the wind high, and altogether the scene and the occasion quite overcame me. Louisa was tolerably composed, and bore the parting well, but poor Julius cried as if his heart would break. What can we do, but commend them to the Saviour, whose property they are, and implore Him to hold His gracious hand over them, and protect them from all that would prove hurtful either to soul or body?

"Our settlement appears to be in good repute at present. Many heathen Esquimaux from the south visited us last winter, chiefly for the purposes of traffic; and we were thankful to observe among them, a very great desire to learn to read, and to be instructed in spiritual things. Many of them professed to believe in Jesus, though they confessed, they knew nothing of His love to mankind. It is

possible, that they may have obtained some knowledge of Scriptural truth, from the Southlanders with whom they associate.

"Z. GLITSCH."

"I can assure you, that I have often derived real edification and instruction from my intercourse with the poor Esquimaux committed to our charge. Their simple expressions of love to Jesus, and faith in Him, have convinced me, that the Holy Spirit was carrying on a work of grace in their hearts. With the children, I have had particular pleasure. Through the kindness of our esteemed friend, the Rev. Mr. Barth, of Mottlingen, in Wirtemberg, we have again had it in our power to distribute among them a number of Scripture Stories, with wood-cuts, with which they have been greatly delighted. We did not omit to give them explanations of the several subjects, suited to their capacities, and to lead their tender minds, to the consideration of the truths revealed in the Word of God. They requested us, on this occasion, to convey their heartfelt thanks to *Barde*, as they call their unknown benefactor. In the evening, there came to me a little girl, of about eight years of age, and accosted me thus: —'Ahak,' (the ordinary salutation of an Esquimaux), 'I have words for Barde, and salute him heartily. I wish him not to be displeased or sorrowful; for I am determined to live to Jesus. I am His property; for He has shed His blood for me, and I have been dedicated to Him in baptism. On this account, I love Him.' Her tears flowed freely while she uttered these words. I was much interested by my intercourse with an old Esquimaux, who had had the grief to lose his four sons, one of whom, the eldest, was his favorite, and a young man of great promise. As you are aware, the Esquimaux are wont to be foolishly indulgent to their children, and are sadly deficient in the exercise of parental discipline? They are also apt to consider the loss of any of them, as a judgment from God, and to yield to immoderate grief. In the present instance, the Spirit of God made use of the affliction sent, as a means of weaning the affections of the poor parents and their two surviving children from the things of earth, and fixing them more simply upon the Saviour. Of this I was pleasingly convinced, by my conversations with them, and especially with the mourning father, whose resignation to the will of the Lord was truly edifying to me. He now laments, that he has spent so large a portion of his life to so little purpose, and earnestly desires to become, through grace, conformed to the mind and image of his Saviour. His youngest surviving son, we had the joy to admit to the enjoyment of the Lord's Supper, in the course of last winter.

"C. BARSOE."

FROM OKKAK.

"I read with much interest the observations in your letter, on the subject of the secular duties, in which we are compelled, by circumstances, to engage, as servants of this Mission. I have had my full share of them, and they have often been trying to my spirit.

But I have been, on the other hand, encouraged by the reflection, that the more frequent intercourse with the Esquimaux, into which I was brought by the nature of the charge committed to me, afforded me the best opportunity possible of becoming acquainted with the weaknesses of their character, as well as with their more valuable qualities, and made me the better able to sympathize in their wants, and to bear with their failings; to arouse the slumbering, to warn the careless, to comfort the mourning and the penitent; and to exhort those who had received grace to walk worthy of their calling, and to follow after that 'holiness without which no man shall see the Lord.' Pray for us, that the Lord may give us grace and strength, thus to lead and to serve the souls who are the purchase of His precious blood.

"G. F. KNAUSS."

FROM HEBRON.

"Last winter I was much occupied in keeping school, and derived much pleasure and encouragement from the discharge of this duty. Whenever the weather was at all tolerable, there was no lack of children in attendance. Before we broke up for the summer, the number had increased to forty. These I divided into two classes. The elder pupils read the Scriptures, learn hymns, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, &c. The younger are taught to spell, and to commit texts and verses to memory. We were particularly pleased to have it in our power, through the kindness of friends in London, Herrnhut, and Lübeck, to distribute little rewards among them, on the day of the examination. I hope soon to have a regular writing class. In February, I paid a visit to Sæglek, with Brother Kruth; and though I could not be of much use, in conversing with the heathen, owing to my comparative ignorance of the language, I had many opportunities of observing, much to my edification, how great is the difference between the converted Esquimaux and their pagan countrymen. I also learnt to appreciate the luxury of sleeping in a snow-hut, and accustoming myself to other strange and rude, but by no means unhealthful, usages of this frozen region.

"J. T. VOLLPRECHT."

"It would appear as if the coast immediately to the northward of us were becoming more and more bare of inhabitants. Fifteen years ago, there were, at least 300 Esquimaux living at Nachvak. Two years ago, none were found there, and last winter, only one winter-house was to be met with. Last summer, two boats' companies left those parts, for the Ungava country, where Europeans have settled, with whom they are inclined to traffic. They speak, however, of coming back again. We are much concerned at their tendency to emigration, as it threatens to frustrate one main object our establishing ourselves at this place.

"JONA. MENTZEL."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

IV. WEST INDIES.

On the 18th of December last, the Brn. and Srs. Breutel and Häuser, and Br. Ehr. M. Linke, reached St. Thomas in safety, after a tedious passage of above eight weeks from Altona. They found the Mission-family in that island in much anxiety and distress, owing to the recent departures of the Srs. Wied and Köster, of New-Herrnhut, by means of the prevailing fever, and the alarming illness of Br. Wied. Of the recovery of the latter, good hopes were, however, entertained, at the date of Br. Breutel's communication, (December 28th). The closing months of the year 1840 appear to have been marked by much sickness and mortality; not only in the Danish Islands, but throughout the whole of the West Indies. In St. Kitt's particularly, our Missionaries have been subjected to attacks of fever, more or less severe, and one Sister, the wife of Br. Th. D. Roemer, has been very unexpectedly removed, to the great grief of her husband and fellow-laborers. Soon after new year, Br. Breutel hoped to enter upon the duties of his commission, and to visit successively the stations in the islands of St. Thomas, St. Jan, and St. Croix. The work of education in the last mentioned and most populous of these islands, appears to be proceeding satisfactorily.

The gradual formation of negro colonies or hamlets, in the neighborhood of several of our settlements, is an interesting feature in the history of the Jamaica Mission. There can be little doubt, that the temporal prosperity of the respective districts will be hereby promoted, as well as the spiritual benefit of the settlers, and the instruction of their children.

The reports from the Missions in Antigua, Barbadoes, and Tobago, are, in general, of a cheering complexion. At *St. John's* and *Gracebay*, in the first-mentioned island, want of church accommodation is loudly complained of, and, from the statements made, it would appear, not without reason. It is to be hoped, that means will, ere long, be found for the remedy of this defect. Several of the subjoined letters contain pleasing details of the spiritual progress of the work, in which our Brethren have the privilege to be engaged.

1. JAMAICA.

EXTRACT OF LETTERS FROM BROTHER J. ZORN.

"*Fairfield, September 29th*, 1840.

"Dear Brother,—Of Missionary intelligence, I cannot send you much this time. I was in hopes of being able to forward you a copy of our diary, which my good wife has kept, but really have been too much engaged to prepare it. The survey of Maidstone, and its subdivision into 80—100 lots, has already occupied me fifteen whole days, and I have not quite done yet. How little did I think, when I

entered upon my present office, that the knowledge of land-surveying, which I had acquired as a lad of fifteen, would ever be serviceable to me as a Missionary. I have thus been able to save the Mission about 200*l.* currency, to serve our Nazareth congregation, and though some may not think so, confer a benefit on the whole district.

"Around Fairfield, we shall soon have a flourishing village; some houses are already built, and others are in the course of erection. Two neighboring proprietors are selling land at a price per acre,—more than double the amount it would have fetched four or five years ago, it being waste land. By this time next year, we shall have a population of from 400 to 500 within half a mile all around us.

"We continue to see pleasing evidences of the power of the Word of God; may more and more receive the truth in the love of it!"

"*Newfield Plantation, near Isle, October* 30*th*, 1840.

"Your kind and interesting letter of September 15th found me here yesterday. You are aware, I believe, that, since the beginning of this year, Br. and Sr. Straubel and ourselves have come hither alternately every two months, and spent a week or ten days here, for the purpose of speaking individually with the distant members of our flock, who will hereafter form the congregation at Bethabara. We were gratified yesterday, to find those of our new people who came to see us, giving evidence of a work of grace in their hearts. One man, to whom I was endeavoring to explain the suretyship of Jesus, and His vicarious sufferings, by a comparison with the substitution of one slave voluntarily receiving thirty-nine lashes to screen another, suddenly exclaimed—'The same thing happened to me, Massa! There is a woman named Margaret, now living on the plantation K.; many years ago, I had marked her for a wife, (that is, he was soliciting her hand at the time), and one day in the field, when we were picking coffee, she picked too much green coffee (unripe), in her basket, and this was a fault you know. The driver threatened to flog her for it; and all the begging I could beg him, he insisted on flogging her to frighten the rest. At last I told him, rather than flog her, I would bear it, and lay down on the ground, and he *did* flog me.' 'Did he flog you, indeed?' 'O yes, the woman is still living, and can tell you. Now I know that Jesus must love us *for true*, if He bore the punishment for our sins. Jesus loves us too much!" Sr. Zorn also was much pleased with the declarations of several of the females, to whom she spoke on the subject of prayer. The scope of their petitions proved, that they pray 'in the spirit.' May the Spirit of the Lord carry on in their souls, His sanctifying influences. Many of our people, it is true, are mere babes in Christ; but the more do we desire to follow the example of the great Apostle of the Gentiles, 'to be affectionately desirous of them, and gentle among them, as a nurse cherisheth her children.'

"The building of this place is making good progress, and we still hope, though it will not be quite finished, to make use of it at Christmas. We shall then abandon the edifice which we have hitherto occupied by the permission of our esteemed friend, Mrs. D. New-

man; a boiling-house, with its huge wheels, posts, cranks, interior circular guttering, half a dozen benches, and numerous stones forming the seats for our Sabbath assemblies. Rude as the place is, we are truly thankful to our kind friend for the use of it,

"The alarming deficiency in our funds, I deeply regret. In as far as Jamaica is concerned, I think I may safely say, that the increase of expenditure is mainly owing to the enlargement of our operations. And this enlargement was not of our seeking, but grew upon us, or naturally arose out of a lively and active publication of the Gospel."

"*New-Fulneck, December 17th*, 1840.

"You will, I doubt not, sympathize with us, when I inform you, that our sweet little Caroline, aged twenty months, was removed from our side to a better world on November 28th. She was a most affectionate and interesting child; a general favorite with black and white, and quite the life of our circle. She had so endeared herself to us, and entwined herself around our hearts, that the separation, sudden and unexpected, was, indeed, most painful to our parental feelings. Even now we cannot speak of our sweet little girl without faultering voices and tearful eyes, though we are assured she is better provided for than we could ever have hoped to provide for her, and though we think of a future joyful re-union, with intense interest and delight. The Lord has wonderfully supported my dear wife under this bereavement. It is a mercy, that our fondest earthly tie having been snapped, at the same time His gracious promise has been verified to us—'As thy day, so shall thy strength be.' Blessed be His holy name!

"The night after the funeral, I was taken ill with fever, and confined to my bed for a week. Thanks to Divine mercy, I am again restored, the full measure of strength excepted, and was able yesterday to attend the usual Mission's Conference at this place.

"Several others of our Missionary circle have been complaining. Br. Elliott has had a slight attack of fever, Br. Heath a more violent one, which has left him very weak, and though free from disease for nearly three weeks past, he has hardly regained any strength. Sr. Robbins is also frequently ailing; to her the change of climate has been of no service, but Br. Robbins's health has improved by means of it.

"Last Sunday, I made a collection here towards Bethabara chapel; owing to a variety of causes, it was less productive than I anticipated; it will hardly reach £30 currency; I expected £100.

"But I have more joyful news to communicate; I have just received a letter from the member for this parish in the House of Assembly, stating that the Committee have reported to the house, that £500 currency (about £300 sterling) be given to each of our two new chapels, New-Eden and Bethabara. We bless

the Lord for this seasonable aid! The house has been more quietly at work this session than ever before. They are amending the Dissenters' Marriage Act, and have returned to us £190 currency, the amount of stamps laid out on past marriages. They are also disposed, I hear, to take off the shilling stamp on duplicate registers of new marriages.

"I have not much more to communicate. Our Mission labors are proceeding as usual, but we are sadly overworked, having no Brother for New-Eden. The arrival of recruits is consequently waited for with impatience.

"Our friend, the Custos of Manchester, Dr. Davy, died on the 3rd inst. He was a liberal and kindhearted man, whose loss we deplore.

"I have still to mention, that the Rev. Dr. Stewart, lately rector of this parish, has written to me, and expressed his dissent from the opinion advanced in my letter of October, 1839, on the state of intelligence and civilization of the negroes around Skidaw. As, for nearly seven years, he lived within four or five miles of the place, he had better opportunities of becoming acquainted with them, and he thinks them not behind the rest of the black population. That both sides may be heard, I would request you to make this statement public."

FROM BROTHER W. S. BLANDFORD.

"*Fairfield, June 22nd*, 1840.

"Dear Brother,—The Sun of Righteousness has arisen here also with healing in His wings; and this island, which was once one of the dark places of the earth, has been enlightened by his cheering rays. Hundreds of persons, who, a few years ago, were sitting in darkness, and living without God, and without Christ, in the world, can now feelingly say, 'I was once dead, but now I am alive; I was once blind, but now I see.' And such expressions as these I hear frequently from poor negroes, when they come to us for private religious instruction. We have great cause to rejoice, that 'the Lord has made bare His arm among the heathen.'

"Some years ago, it would have been a difficult matter, to find a dozen negroes who could read, out of a congregation of 500 persons. But, in these days, we are permitted to see our sable brethren and sisters walking to their places of worship, with their Bible and their Hymn Book under their arm. I am happy to be able to inform you, that there are about 150 adults of both sexes, belonging to the church at this place, who read the inspired volume. And on the Lord's day, many are to be seen reading the Old and New Testament lessons at church, and referring to those texts, which may be mentioned during the sermon. The people in connexion with us also pay due attention to the exhortation of St. Paul, Heb. x. 25. They assemble together in such numbers, that we can find no place to accommodate many of them. May

those persons who have the ability, contribute according to their means and then the work of the Lord will not be hindered for want of money."

2. ST. KITT'S.

FROM BROTHER P. RICKSECKER.

"*Basse-Terre, October 12th*, 1840.

"Dear Brother,—In the hope of being able to send these few lines by the packet, which is hourly expected, I sit down, with a trembling hand and dim sight, to inform you of the Lord's doings with us. Sickness has visited us sorely since the date of my last. I was first attacked by the so-called bilious rheumatic fever, then my nephew Benjamin, and afterwards little Edwina, and my dear wife, all being ill at the same time. At present, we are convalescent, but not able to do much. The school is shut up, but we hope soon to re-open it. Sr. Ricksecker's case was the worst, and she is still very weak. She must be attended to night and day, and is dreadfully salivated; but, thanks be to the Lord, I have hopes of her eventual recovery.

"The Lord's ways are wonderful; poor Br. Roemer was called to give up his dear wife, when he least expected it. Sister Roemer departed this life on the 7th inst., and Br. Oeter was the only Brother who could go to Bethel and care for her burial. On his way, he found Br. Lichtenthäler, at Bethesda, ill of fever; the latter is now, however, recovering. It is Br. Roemer's intention to visit his brother in St. Croix, and proceed thence to Germany. More I cannot say this time, as writing affects my head. The work at the new chapel is going on prosperously. We commend ourselves to your prayers at the Throne of Grace; and beseech you especially to remember poor Br. Roemer, and his two motherless children, in your intercessions."

"*Bethel, November 20th*, 1840.

"It was my full intention to write a long letter by this packet, but family afflictions and official duties forbid it this time; and I must look to a future opportunity to fulfil my intention. Yesterday we came to this place, but have had a very disturbed night; my wife is still a poor invalid."

FROM BROTHER I. G. MUNTZER.

"*Bethesda, September 9th*, 1840.

"Dear Brother,—The Lord continues to bless our unworthy labors in this congregation. Our services, especially on the Lord's day, are numerously attended. We have a spacious church, now that there is a school-house in connexion with it, and yet we have frequently to complain of want of room. Though it gives us much pleasure, to see such large auditories assemble together, to hear the Word of God, yet we have often to regret, that many, who make a

profession of religion, do not adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour as they ought, by their walk and conversation.

"On the 30th of August, we celebrated the festival of the married people. About 300 couples were present. Our fervent prayer was, that the blessing of the Lord may rest upon them and their offspring.

"You ask in your letter, if we have got qualified teachers for our school: I think we may be satisfied for the present with both of them. They are attentive in their duty, and tolerably well qualified for the management of a negro school. At the same time, there is a great scarcity of persons here, who are either willing or able to engage in such service; we must, therefore, value those the more highly, who devote themselves to it faithfully. While we were alone, my dear wife and myself rendered assistance, as far as our duties permitted. Now that Br. and Sr. Lichtenthläer have joined us, they have taken the charge of the schools, and I trust the Lord will bless their endeavors."

3. ANTIGUA.

FROM BROTHER B. HARVEY.

"*St. John's, October 29th*, 1840.

"DEAR BROTHER,—Br. Westerby would be much assissted in his important labors at Lebanon, and I am sure would be very thankful, if you could obtain a library of books for his flourishing school from the Committee of the Religious Tract Society. He has desired me to mention the subject to you; and most cordially do I beg to join my request with his for this desirable assistance to his school."

"*November 19th*, 1840.

"I am led to address you by this packet, in consequence of the urgent representations of our dear friend Mr. Millar, of the Mico Charity. We are at this time in much want of two sub-teachers (females), for St. John's, and Cedar Hall, and Mr. Millar has none to offer us, nor have we any at present to send to him for the needful instruction. Here, at St. John's, it is become absolutely needful, that Br. Heath should have more efficient help, than he can have from the female teacher now employed; so that, for want of the requisite assistance, he has twice been very poorly from over-exertion. The difficulty in which we find ourselves at this time, having frequently occurred before, to the detriment of our schools, from our having to wait too long for the needful supply of teachers, Mr. Millar has been led to propose—and I am induced cordially to second the proposal—that there may be always a male and female teacher under his training, for our service; by which arrangement, the vacancies occurring in our eight schools may be supplied without loss of time, temporary relief afforded in the event of a teacher's sickness, and the teachers be enabled from time to time, to obtain further benefit from the Normal School, by there being an assisstant in training

there, who might afford them temporary relief. I would, therefore, simply ask you the question, whether we may act upon Mr. Millar's suggestion, and incur the needful expense, which I suppose will be covered by £50 currency, (or £24 sterling) per annum, for the two teachers?

"I am happy to be able to state, that since the receipt of your last favor of Sept. 15th, in which you make a lamentable outcry about our Mission financies, we have resolved, in our Mission-conference, that, after this year, contributions of one penny sterling weekly, as church money, shall be raised from all persons under our charge (above 12 years of age), by means of our Helpers, or other persons appointed for the purpose; who shall, in return, give receipts to the payers, to be presented to us at the individual speaking, every two months. On the other hand, we propose to abolish the present speaking-money (Isa. lv. 1,) and the Sunday collections we have hitherto made in the church. Were all the adults in professed connexion with our church in this island, to contribute according to this rate, a sum would be raised, which, in addition to the subscriptions of our Missionary Society here, would go far to support this Mission. I do not, however, mean to say, that all, or even above three-fourths would pay; and, perhaps, at the first, only half the number would give to this extent; but I do not see, why this Mission should not be ultimately supported by such means."

"*December* 29*th*, 1840.

"You labor under a serious mistake, I can assure you, in supposing the church at Gracebay to be sufficiently large, for the use of the congregation attached to that station. Of the 760 adults who belong to it, scarcely the half can find admittance, for the church is only 50 feet in length by 25 feet in width. I never recollect to have seen the whole of the congregation attending, inside the church, at least not for many years past. Besides, the extreme narrowness of the building is productive of great inconvenience. The benches have been placed as close as possible, ever since Br. and Sr. Coleman were stationed here, and yet there is no room for many who regularly attend on the Lord's day. We shall therefore be truly thankful, when permission can be given us to effect the enlargement we have been contemplating.

"A similar increase of accommodation is also much needed here at St. John's. Our church will seat 880 persons at the very furthest, including gallery and vestry; and the adult congregation remaining attached to this station, after all the draughts that have been made from it, to Lebanon, Five Islands, and Popeshead, amounts to 2386. Such being the case, it follows, as a matter of course, that numbers who belong to us, are deprived of the means of attending Divine service, as regularly and frequently as they ought to do, and as would be agreeable to many. I have little doubt, that we should be able to raise the needful funds, for the addition of a wing to our present chapel, which would remedy the inconvenience complained of. I am happy to inform you, that our new system of missionary contri-

bution is coming into operation, and promises to work well. Our Missionary Associations also prosper, especially those at St. John's and Lebanon. Our helper-brethren, and our negro flock generally, seem to be much pleased and interested with them, and not a single instance has come to my knowledge, of any individual objection to them, or to the monthly subscriptions. We shall have some misconceptions to rectify, I doubt not, especially in regard to the latter; but I do not anticipate any serious obstacle to the general introduction of the plan.

"For some weeks past we have had a very sickly time, and many deaths have occurred among persons of all classes. We hope, however, that a healthier season is approaching. Our Mission-family, I am thankful to say, are enjoying a pretty good state of health. May the Lord grant us a continuance of this great blessing!"

FROM BROTHER R. S. RAUCH.

"*Cedar-Hall, October 28th*, 1840.

"DEAR BROTHER,—Our new school-house, although not completely finished in all its parts, is so far ready, that we were enabled to open it last Thursday with praise and prayer, on which occasion the Brn. Harvey and Baum, from town, were present. On Sunday last, we re-commenced our Sunday-school, which had necessarily been dropt for several months, for want of a suitable place, the church being, of course, required for the meetings of the congregation. The building, including a class-room of 18 feet by 19, and a gallery along the west gable end, is 36 feet by 50, a size which will accommodate all the children that may come. The number now attending is 188, and will most likely increase. The children are very happy; and, for some days previous to the opening, they were busy, during their lunch-time, at cleaning away the shavings, rubbish, &c.; and the moment any thing was said about their fine new school-house, their little black faces brightened into a smile, and many into a broad grin. At the idea of having a love-feast, on the occasion of the opening of the house, they were delighted, and gladly brought their two dogs (3*d*. currency), to defray the expense. This, together with a few tickets sold to such of the parents as wished to be present, paid for the love-feast, and left a small balance in hand.

"Perhaps you are aware, from some other source, and if not, it will be interesting to you to hear it, that the Cedar-Hall Friendly Society voted £100 sterling toward the liquidation of the debt upon the new school-house. I am pleased to be able to add, that the gift was entirely voluntary, and not at the suggestion of any of the Brethren. It was, moreover, an unanimous vote by the members, not a single one of them dissenting.

"Sr. Rauch has between thirty and forty girls in her sewing class. In order to employ them all, we buy cheap calico: this Sr. Rauch, in the first place, teaches the bigger girls to cut into dresses, and then sets the whole class to work to make them up; when finished, they are sold at as cheap a rate as possible, to members of the congre-

gation, and to the parents of the children. Though much has been said, within the last few years, about the improvement of scholars at other schools, and especially of those in Newfield school, I am very happy to be able to say, without entering into any particulars, or without any boasting in all, (for if there is any praise due, it does not belong to us, who have been here only a few months, but to those who have gone before us), that our scholars, both male and female, at Cedar-Hall, are not a whit behind those of any other school in the island of Antigua.

"One subject more, and I have done. You are aware that it is the custom in all the schools in Antigua to make a small present to the children on Christmas. It appears that the school at this place has, for several years, had a very small supply of such gifts. I would, therefore, beg you to interest yourself in our behalf, and let some of the nice things presented for the use of the schools, by our friends in England, take their course hitherward."

FROM BROTHER JAMES HEATH.

"*St. John's, September 9th,* 1840.

"Dear Brother,—Our day and Sunday schools at this station, are, I trust, making some progress. The average attendance of children at the former, is 130; and at the Sunday schools, from 180 to 200. The teaching of such a number is, by no means, an easy task, especially in the enervating climate of the West Indies. But do not think that I am dissatisfied with the work allotted to me; it is one quite congenial to my feelings; and I am persuaded, that the blessing of the Lord will attend faithfulness in the performance of it. I believe the majority of those, whose hearts the Lord opens under the preaching of the Gospel, are persons in whom the seeds of the kingdom were sown when in early life. I cannot say, that any of the seed which has been scattered by my feeble labors, has hitherto borne evident fruit; but sometimes my mind is cheered by the anticipation of such fruit. Not long since, I heard of one of my scholars, when on a bed of sickness, crying out, 'Father and mother, I have often stolen sugar from that shelf, and have often been disobedient; but do forgive me?' And to her brothers, she said, 'I have often quarrelled and fought with you; but pray forgive me?' When I inquired of her, whether she had asked our Saviour to forgive her? she answered, 'Yes; and I felt that I was his child.' Such a circumstance I hail with pleasure, and humbly trust that fruit will follow, well-pleasing to God, through Jesus Christ. For some time past, our children have been in the habit every week of repeating from memory certain portions of Scripture, or verses of hymns. They are allowed to choose the texts, that the very idea of its being a task may be removed from their minds, and they may be led to view the Word of God, not as a book of punishment, but as a pleasant and profitable companion, and the guide of youth. I have been frequently delighted and edified with the portions they have repeated. This morning, a boy repeated the verses 9, 10, 11, of Numbers xx.,

respecting Moses smiting the rock, and the waters gushing out. Having repeated these verses, he referred of his own accord to hymn 955, in our collection—'*See from the rock the waters bursting, &c. &c.*'—thus shewing that he understood the comment of the Apostle (1 Cor. x. 4)—'*And that rock was Christ.*' In the Sunday school, we have a number of young men and women, some of whom are truly anxious to receive instruction. A few Sundays ago, a man came to me, who had not been to the Sunday school before; and taking out a half torn copy of the 'Reading made Easy,' begged me to let one of the boys give him a lesson. I must not forget to tell you, that our Missionary society, established among the children last March, continues to prosper. I have received upwards of £6 currency from them, since its commencement.

"We are much in want of a clock for our school. If any brother, or sister, or Christian friend, would provide us with this school requisite, it would be most thankfully received.

"You will probably have heard, that emigration from our small but populous island is going on to a considerable extent, as well as in your larger one. Several thousands have already left these shores for Demerara; some, indeed have returned, because the climate did not agree with them. I am not aware that any members of our church have taken their departure as yet."

4. BARBADOES.

FROM BROTHER JOHN ELLIS.

"*Bridgetown, August 21st*, 1840.

"DEAR BROTHER,—You will be glad to learn, that we have a fair prospect of raising a sufficient sum for the erection of a comfortable wooden building at Clifton Hill. It is the general opinion, that a stone-built house in that situation is not so conducive to health as a wooden one. This can easily be accounted for, as neither the stone nor the mortar in use there are impervious to the heavy rains, which abound in that elevated part of the island; for elevated it is, though this island is generally considered flat, to the height, I should suppose, of about 900 feet above the level of the sea. In due time, we will inform you of the progress we make, both in the collection and application of this fund."

"*October 8th*, 1840.

"Our contributions towards the new dwelling-house at Clifton-Hill now amount to near £400, out of which we have purchased the principal part of the materials, and have also got them to the spot. This sum has been chiefly raised by the people living in the vicinity. We hope the members of the three other congregations will also come forward, and assist in the undertaking; so that, as soon as the present rainy season is over, we may commence building. The day-school at Clifton-Hill now numbers 140, and the church (or

chapel-school) is crowded on the Sundays. Our schools at the other three places continue nearly stationary, as regards numbers, with the exception of the one at Mount-Tabor, which has of late rather decreased, owing to a disorder which at present prevails among the children in that neighborhood. The beneficial effects, produced by the instructions received in these schools, have already become apparent in various ways:—fathers, who cannot write themselves, employ their sons to keep their little records: grandparents and parents gladly listen to their children, who read the New Testament and Bible to them; and thus the language, and the truths contained in God's Word, become better known. And we rejoice to find, that many have a relish for that Word; because we know, that it is able to make them wise unto salvation. Many of the adults express themselves to this effect:—'No such good thing in our day; but we are thankful that we have lived to see the time, when our children can learn to read. Thanks to our blessed Saviour for His goodness to us!'

"Our congregations at the other stations continue to increase gradually, though not rapidly. Most of the members have also manifested a willingness to contribute according to their ability towards our Mission-funds; so that we hope, from these and similar contributions in other Missions, the large debt heretofore incurred will, ere long, be diminished.

"We have lately celebrated the memorial-day of the married division of our flock, both in Bridgetown and at the other places. We had seventy couples present—these, with one or two exceptions, have all entered into the married state, since they obtained their freedom in the year 1834.'

5. TOBAGO.

FROM BROTHER J. MORRISH.

"*Montgomery, Dec. 1st*, 1840.

"Dear Brother,—You ask, what may be the probable expense of the work in which we are engaged at Indian Walk:—According to the best estimate I can make, of expense attending the building of the chapel-school, and stable, with two rooms for domestics, the sum of £1000 (more or less) will be required; £250 of which has already been subscribed by Government and Miss Irvine; and I fully expect to raise £400 in the island from friends, and a grant from the Legislature.

"Meanwhile the two rooms under the vestry and the class-rooms, will afford a residence for the missionary, who may have to take charge of the congregation.

"You will rejoice with us to learn, that the work of the Lord is prospering at Montgomery. The services are so numerously attended, that our new church is too small to accommodate all who come to hear the Word of Life. Many are getting ragularly married. Last Sunday the banns for ten couple were published at

Montgomery, and for one at Woodlands. On the same day, one person was received at Woodlands as a member of our church. On the Sunday previous, one was baptized at Indian Walk, and many more are anxious to enjoy these Christian privileges in the neighborhood. I doubt not, but a large number will be soon gathered into the fold of Christ, when our station on this side is established.

FROM SISTER MORRISH.

"*Woodlands, Dec. 1st,* 1840.

"DEAR BROTHER,—We have been kindly invited to take up our residence here for the present, but Mr. K., Lord Douglas's attorney, who has shewn us much kindness. The change has proved very beneficial both to myself and children, in restoring our drooping health. This is a spacious mansion on the top of a hill, 900 feet above the level of the sea, and commanding a most beautiful and romantic view. The air is comparatively cool and healthy, and only about a quarter of a mile from the site of our new church, where Brother M. is busy with the carpenters. The negroes in this direction have had fewer advantages, and are still more ignorant, than those around Montgomery. I am frequently surprised and distressed at the gross darkness which reigns here. The Brethren now preach on two, sometimes three, estates in this neighborhood every Sunday, and the Sunday on which there is no preaching here, at Woodlands. I read Scripture to, and instruct, the women and children. A good many females also come to me during the week, when I endeavor to lead them to the Friend of sinners. We are thus by degrees gaining the confidence of the people here, the benefit of which is already evident in their increased interest in the meetings. One man has been baptized, and one woman received into the congregation, and several have come to us and expressed their desire to join the church. With regard to the building, the difficulties which my dear husband has to encounter are many and painful, and I confess, we are sometimes ready to sink under them. The extravagant price of materials,—the scarcity, inefficiency, and high rate of labor,—and the bad state of the roads, all conspire to render this undertaking a most laborious one ; and did I not know that the work is the Lord's, and that He can protect his servants under all circumstances, I should lose courage, when I reflect on the fatigue and anxiety Brother M. has to undergo in this unhealthy climate.

"I continue to have clothes made in the school by the bigger girls, and sold to the negroes, which is rather an advantage to the mission. Of this work Sister Titterington takes a very faithful charge. We live in much harmony and union with dear Brother and Sister T., whose hearts appear to be in the work. Brother Heath is more than ever devoted to the school, which is decidedly and confessedly the best establishment of the kind in the island.

"You will be glad to hear, that the desire after religious instruc-

tion continues on the increase, in the neighborhood of Montgomery. On Sunday the 25th of October, such numbers assembled, that service had to be held at the same time both in the church and the school-house. On the same day 150 adult scholars were present, and nearly as many children."

6. DANISH ISLANDS.

FROM BROTHER J. C. BREUTEL.

"*New-Herrnhut, St. Thomas, Dec. 26th*, 1840.

"Dear Brother,—My letter from Ryde will have informed you of the perils and discomforts of our voyage, up to the time of our taking shelter in that roadstead. It is with a thankful heart, that I now take up my pen, to announce the safe arrival of our whole party at St. Thomas, on the 18th inst., after a most agreeable passage of about four weeks from the Isle of Wight. You will join us in praising the name of our gracious Lord for His almighty protection, and for His manifold mercies, vouchsafed to us, while traversing the mighty deep.

"Great was our joy on finding ourselves once again in the midst of our Brethren; but it was soon damped, when we received from them the intelligence of the severe trials, wherewith their faith has been lately exercised. Within the last few weeks, it has pleased our Saviour to call home to himself our dear Sisters Köster and Wied, by means of the prevailing fever; and at the present time, Br. Wied is lying seriously ill of the same disorder. Two children of the Brn. Wied and Köster, have also departed this life; so that there has been enough to cause mourning and anxiety, within the borders of our Mission-family in these islands.

"We have been received with the greatest affection and cordiality by all our dear fellow-servants in St. Thomas, and are employing the last days of the year in visiting them in their several places of abode, and making ourselves acquainted with their several spheres of labor. On Tuesday next, we intend proceeding with Br. and Sr. Häuser, to St. Jan, for the same purpose; and, on our return, shall be better prepared to enter into the matters of detail connected with my commission.

"The English language appears to be understood by the bulk of the negro population of this island; and the establishment of schools, in which this language may be taught, is, therefore, an object of the highest moment. May the Lord send us the laborers and the means, necessary for its attainment! When I reach St, Croix, I shall hope for an early interview with the Governor-General; and this will be one of the most interesting and important subjects I shall have to discuss with his Excellency, with whose anxiety to promote the work of negro instruction you are already acquainted. Remember us in your prayers.

"December 28th.—I am thankful to add, that Br. Wied appears to be convalescent, though very slowly."

FROM BROTHER J. GARDIN.

"*Friedensthal, St. Croix, Dec. 8th*, 1840.

"DEAR BROTHER,—Having been requested to assist our Brethren in the Danish Islands in the arrangements of the new schools, I set out for St. Croix on October 15th; and, after a tolerably good passage, arrived here October 22nd, (my birthday) much encouraged by the daily word—'*I am the Lord, thy God, which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.*' Isa. xlviii. 17. On my arrival here, at Friedensthal, I was much disappointed to learn, that nothing had yet been done for the fitting up of the school-rooms, and that the whole business was to rest till after Christmas, the Governor being much engaged in another good work; viz. the abolition of the Sunday market, which, besides the desecration of the Sabbath, is so great an hindrance to the church-services on this day. As I was very desirous not to lose time, we made an application to his Excellency, for an order that the work might be taken in hand immediately; and our wishes having been very readily acceded to, we are now building galleries, &c., according to a plan which I laid before the School-Commission, and which was immediately adopted.

"The eight school-houses which the Government has erected here in St. Croix are very excellent and substantial buildings, 60 feet by 33 inside, the walls 14 feet high. It is the wish of the Governor, that church-service and a Sunday school should be held every Lord's day, in some of them, if not in all. As there are at present, no qualified teachers to be found among the colored population, we are greatly in want of suitable persons for this important service; and have been compelled to commence, by giving instruction only three times a week in each school, one teacher having to attend two schools.

"You are aware, that the English language is now to be generally introduced into this island; and I must do our younger brethren here the justice to say, that they are engaged with great zeal in the acquisition of it. Some of them speak English pretty well already, and are even able to preach in it; but they feel very severely the want of English books, such as *Concordances, Commentaries, Pronouncing Dictionaries*, &c. &c. Our Brethren are not able to buy these books, as they receive no salary; I would therefore beg you, in their name, to call upon our friends in England to supply this great want. It is, indeed, high time to introduce the English language in all our church-services, and therefore a supply of such books as I have named, is absolutely requisite, and they would be most thankfully received. I know, dear Brother, you will take this subject to heart, and plead for it with others.

"If nothing particular happens, I propose staying here till the end of February; for we hope to open the first school before Christmas. When, with the assistance of Brn. and Srs. Römer and Gruhl, I have brought this school into proper order, according to the system we have adopted in Antigua, I shall think I have fulfilled my commission; and after a short visit in St. Jan, I shall feel very happy to set my foot once again in Antigua, that highly favored island.

"Before I conclude, I would beg you to obtain for my dear children in Gracehill, a good supply of books. There are about sixty in the school, who can read well, and very fond of reading, but who have no books. Pray do not forget my children. I am sure you will not, if you feel half the love for them that I do."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

V. SURINAM.

EXTRACT OF LETTERS FROM BROTHER WM. TREU, TO THE MISSION-BOARD.

"*Paramaribo, Feb. 17th,* 1840.

"On the 11th inst., it pleased the Lord to release our Br. Wolter from his long period of suffering, and call him home to his eternal rest, at the age of 30 years and 10 months. At Christmas, there appeared such an improvement in his health, that he firmly believed, that he would yet recover, and, according to his desire, proclaim the gospel to the Bush Negroes. Returning on the 1st inst. from a stay of some weeks in the plantations, he felt so much stronger, that both himself and the medical men thought it probable, that a longer journey might, by God's blessing, re-establish his health. On the 7th, however, he was suddenly seized with spasms, and thought that his departure was at hand. His eyes sparkled with joy, and he exclaimed repeatedly, "My Saviour is coming! He comes, yes, he comes!" But he had yet much to suffer for some days, from spasms and difficulty of breathing. An hour before his happy dissolution, he once more poured out his heart before the Lord. "My Saviour! Thou has created me, and redeemed me by Thy blood. Thou hast drawn me to Thyself from infancy, and kept me to the present day. Leave me not now, at my last hour! No, Thou wilt not, for Thou hast promised it. True, I can bring Thee nothing good; I am very sinful; but Thou hast borne my sins; I wrap myself in Thy merits and Thy righteousness. This is enough; now, Lord! receive my spirit. Amen!" These were the last words he uttered with apparent consciousness. The blessing of the Lord was soon after imparted to him, and while a valedictory verse was singing, his spirit took its flight. Next day, we accompanied his remains to their resting-place, close to those of our late Br. Voigt, after a discourse on Phil. i. 21—23, the text which he himself had chosen for the purpose.

"Br. Jacobs reports of his journey to the Upper Nickerie, that he not only met with an uniformly friendly reception from the planters, but found the negroes extremely desirous of Christian instruction. On most plantations, he had the opportunity of holding two meetings with the negroes; and when this was not the case, they had time given them, to attend Divine service on a neighboring estate.

"While Br. Lund from Charlottenburg supplied Br. Jacobs's place here, I spent three weeks in visiting the plantations of his district; and I can truly say, that I met with much that was encouraging. On the plantations *L'Embarras en Venlo*, on the Commewyne, and *Ponthieu*, on the Warappa Creek, the gospel was, on this occasion, preached to the negroes for the first time; and I had the pleasure to see, that the word was received with joy in both places. These two estates are under Mr. Karseboom's agency. At *Bentshoop*, I had above 300 hearers, the negroes attending from *Herstelling*, which belongs to the same property. At *Clifford Koegshoven*, on the opposite bank, I called on the manager, and found him wishful for the introduction of Christianity upon the plantation, which he also stated to be the case with the negroes themselves. He promised to see the agent on the subject, when he next came to town; and, a few days ago, he informed us, that he had obtained his consent. Thus the Lord opens one door after another. What a noble parish might be formed in this district! The negroes from all the plantations on both sides of the Creek, might easily come to church in some central situation, such as Klein-Lunenburg, which the Society offered to buy for us, before the purchase of Charlottenburg. At *Meerzorg*, I found the children uncommonly eager for learning, like those at Berg-en-Dal. They could still repeat the hymns which Br. Bauch had taught them on a former visit, and were exceedingly open and friendly. One of them is to come to Charlottenburg to school, that he may afterwards teach the rest.

"At the request of Mr. Karseboom, I concluded my circuit with the consecration of the new church at Zorg-en-Hoop, on the Lower Commewyne. Br. Wünche and some national helpers having arrived from the town, I held a preparatory meeting in the evening in the Blanken-house, which had been hitherto used for Divine service. On the Sunday morning, we went in solemn procession from the Blanken-house to the church, which had been tastefully decorated by Mr. Karseboom with festoons, and an appropriate inscription. Besides himself, several managers and other friends from the neighborhood took a share in the solemnity. A number of baptized negroes from the adjacent estates, La Singularité and Picardie, joined their fellow negroes here; and, altogether, there were upwards of 300 persons present. I held the consecration sermon from Luke xix. 46: "My house is the house of prayer." In the evening, five adults were baptized into the death of Jesus; and the solemnities were concluded by a fervent prayer, that the word of Christ's sufferings and death might manifest its Divine power in this hallowed place, on the hearts of all who should assemble within its walls!

"We trust, that this month will still witness the consecration of the new church at Gingeh, in the country of the Bush Negroes, who, in their ardent desire to have the gospel amongst them, have begun and finished the work themselves. May the Lord kindle a fire there, to enlighten the multitudes who are yet sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death!"

"*Paramaribo, March 29th*, 1840.

"Br. Schmidt set out, Feb. 14th, on his journey to the Bush Negro territory, and is now returned to Worsteling Jacobs, but not, alas! in good health. After visiting some twenty villages of the free Bush Negroes above Gingeh, (or as the Negroes pronounce it Yenyen,) in which he met occasionally with souls thirsting for salvation, but found the greater part sunk in idolatry, on Sunday, March 1st, he dedicated the new church at Gingeh. But on the very same day he felt unwell, and the next day had to take to his bed. Br. and Sr. Wünsche, the Brn. Bleichen and Warmann, and Sr. Schmidt, happened to be at Berg-en-Dal when Br. Schmidt arrived there. He remained there a week under the care of Mr. Kemper, when he felt sufficiently recovered, to proceed to Worsteling Jacobs. Since then, Br. Bleichen informs me, that his health has on the whole, improved, though the fever still returns at intervals.

"It is, certainly, somewhat disheartening, that this third visit to the Bush Negroes should, like the two preceding, terminate in a fever. Yet we trust that the Lord does not intend to put a stop to the work, but only to exercise our faith and patience, and that of the Bush Negroes, and to try our love, whether we really count not our lives too dear, to venture them in His service. Surely these souls, so long bereaved of God's word, will not be suffered to cry for help in vain! Would our gracious Saviour awaken a hunger and thirst after Him, without intending to satisfy it? No! He will provide and accomplish all His purpose in His own good time, though, perhaps, in a different manner from what we had anticipated."

FROM BROTHER RASMUS SCHMIDT.

"*Berg-en-Dal, March 14th*, 1840.

"Though with a feeble hand, I must write at least a few lines.

"*Feb. 12th* had been fixed on for my departure, and six strong negroes arrived in the evening of that day to fetch me. I was rather uneasy on not seeing Frank amongst the number, but the text 'Fear thou not, for I am with thee; I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness,' brought com rt to my mind.

"Before setting out in the morning, the Negroes requested us to sing some verses with them, which I took as a proof that I might safely trust myself to them. My wife accompanied me in

our own boat to this place, whence I proceeded on the 14th in a Coryar 35 feet long by 3½ broad, with a canopy just high enough to sit under. Mr. Kemper, the manager of Berg-en-Dal, had unknown to me, supplied a light mattress. Thus I prosecuted my journey, in cheerful dependence on the Lord, who has honored me, his meanest servant, to serve Him in my weakness, and, notwithstanding my weakness, owns me as His. I feel that He is with me."

Sr. Schmidt continues:—

"My dear husband is obliged through extreme weakness to give me the pen. 'By my illness,' he observes, 'the Lord seems to say: send no more visiters, but let some one go to settle in the country. Thomas, the national helper, declared that my illness made the same impression on his mind, and that the time was come, for the poor destitute Bush Negroes to have a resident teacher amongst them. Indeed, this was my full conviction, the moment I came amongst them, and heard their declarations, all expressive of their longing desire for a teacher. The way is already prepared by the Lord, for the little flock, who meet together daily, have separated themselves from their heathen countrymen, and live by themselves in a village on the side of the Dregebroeders mountain, the other villages being situated at the foot of the hill. The church faces you as you mount the hill, terminating the next little street of negro houses.

"'After holding an evening meeting on Feb. 14th at Victoria, I arrived next day at Frank's residence, where I spent the Sunday, and was engaged without intermission from 6 o'clock till 4 p. m. in holding meetings, in conversing with the adults, and giving Sunday school instruction to the young. Blessed were the hours thus spent, surrounded as I was by souls thirsting for sacred truth, and every hardship was gladly forgotten in these employments. In the evening we met again for singing and prayer.

"'Next day, Frank accompanied us up the river. The first sight of the rapids, and the huge rocks which formed them, forcibly impressed me with the Almighty power of God. On the 20th, a twelve hour's navigation landed us at 4 p. m. at Gingeh. Notice having been given of our arrival, the bank was crowded with people, who testified their joy on seeing me, by shouting and clapping their hands. On coming near them, I bade our people strike up the verse: "Now let us praise the Lord, &c.," on which all was presently still. When I went on shore, the children began singing "Jesus, behold we come to Thee," and, altogether, it was an inspiring scene. The postmaster invited me to his house, and placed some refreshment before me, but the concourse was so great, that he was presently obliged to lock the door. I then went to the apartments intended for a missionary residence, under the same roof with the church. The plan of the latter is copied from that of our church at Paramaribo; it has an opening to the sky in the middle, of 10 feet by 5, sur-

rounded by a gallery and palisades. The whole edifice measures 27 feet by 20, and has been erected with no other instruments but the axe and hatchet. I hold the meetings for the present in the old house.

"'On the 22nd, having recovered from the fatigue of my past journey, I visited 20 villages above Gingeh, and found the spiritual darkness increase the farther I went. On my return, the people again flocked to me, and occupied me from morning to night, the only interval of rest being while I was at dinner with the postmaster.

"'*March 1st* was the day fixed for consecrating the church, which the negroes had decorated for the occasion, with the splendid flowers wherewith the Creator's hand has strewed so profusely the woods around. The exhalation from the moist foliage and numerous flowers made my head ache; but on seeing the multitude assembled for the festivity, I begged the Lord to grant us this day as a day of blessing; and He heard me, and gave me new strength for each succeeding meeting. There were about 300 persons present, so that the church and its avenues were completely occupied, yet the utmost stillness and good order prevailed. Some beat upon their breasts and exclaimed: "Oh! what things we hear to day." My heart was full, and the Lord Himself seemed to put words into my mouth.

"'At noon the next day I was obliged to go to bed. It was plain, when evening approached, that I could not keep the meeting, and yet the people were assembling. The helper, Frederic, came up, and kneeling down by my hammock in great trouble, offered up an affecting prayer. He pleaded, "that if I did not recover, their condition would be almost hopeless, and nobody would be sent to them any more. The Lord knew how necessary it was for them to have a teacher amongst them, if any good was to be done. He would not surely cast them off, but graciously hear their petition." When he had risen up from prayer, Job, the other helper, began to pray in the church below my apartment, and again laid the matter with great earnestness before the Lord. I was deeply affected, and joined my tears and sighs with theirs. Doubtless, the Lord will not put them to shame! He helped me so far, that I could address them once more, March 5th, at a farewell meeting; but I felt that I must hasten away, and early next morning I embarked in the Coryar, weak and feverish, doing violence to my feelings in this hurried departure.

"'On Saturday evening, I reached Berg-en-Dal quite exhausted. Had I stayed two days longer at Gingeh, the high water would have rendered it impossible for me to leave for some time.

"'My prayer, in conclusion is, that our gracious Saviour, who hears the sighing of these poor souls, and whose own cause it is, would shew us that His hour is come for doing His marvels amongst them. I am still very weak; but if He see good to permit me to live amongst them, I am ready with all my heart, and so is my dear wife. We should esteem it a great favor to serve Him there for the remainder of our days.'

"We commend ourselves to the affectionate remembrance of all our friends."

VI. EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS OF THE SCRIPTURE READERS OF THE UNITED BRETHREN'S CHURCH IN IRELAND.

From the Journal of the Reader, in ——, 1840.

'I CALLED to see a sick man, who seemed going into eternity blindfold. When I spoke to him concerning the state of his soul, he told me he was willing to depart. Fearing that he was deceiving himself, I put a few plain questions to him. *Ques.* Do you think your sins are pardoned? *Ans.* I don't know. *Ques.* On what ground then do you expect to enter heaven? *Ans.* I cannot tell. *Ques.* Do you know in what state you were born as relates to your soul? *Ans.* I don't mind. *Ques.* And do you expect to enter heaven in your ignorant and sinful state? I must tell you, you were born in sin, and therefore altogether unfit for heaven. I read and explained to him part of the third chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, our Saviour's discourse with Nicodemus on the new birth, and the parable of the barren fig-tree. These passages seemed to awaken him a little, for he manifested some anxiety about pardoning mercy.'

'CALLED in a house inhabited by Roman Catholics. After some conversation, the mistress said, "I am a great sinner." I asked, "Are you willing to part with sin for the time to come?" And quoted 1 Cor. vi. 9–11. On this, a stranger, who happened to be in the house, said; "We shall get our sins pardoned when we die, and you need not read with us, for it is of no use." Addressing the inmates of the house, she continued; "Sure, you know that you should not let him stop with you, nor hear his words." To this, a young woman replied; "He has spoken nothing but the truth, and why should I stop my ears to the truth. You are an ignorant woman, begone out of the house, and talk no more in this manner." I now endeavored to draw their attention to the declarations of Scripture. Finding them to be living in sin, and not unfrequently indulging in oaths, I read several portions of Scripture, showing the danger of living in sin, and observed, "from these passages you see what are the real effects of sin, and that you can never enter heaven unless you leave off your sins." They appeared to be much struck, and only replied; "That is the Word of God."'

'WHILST reading in one of the houses, where I visited to-day, I asked a neighbor who had come in, what she understood by justification by faith. She answered, "My faith is that of the Church of England, and I will die in that faith." I replied; "I do not want you to leave the Church of England, I am willing to speak with you concerning the faith, without which it is impossible to please God, which worketh by love, and purifies the heart." She said; "I am not learned enough to discourse with you." I replied; "The best of all learning is that, which is given by the Holy Spirit, and He is freely offered unto all, who sincerely ask for His help, as you will find in Luke xi. 13. If you have not this help it is because you do not ask for it, or you ask amiss." She then said, "I cannot read, and therefore I cannot turn to the Scriptures myself." I now enlarged on the sufferings of Christ, showing the reason of His sufferings, and the blessed results of them for sinners, urging her to seek for herself an interest in his sufferings and death. At parting, she caught hold of my hand and said; Oh! if I could read and under-

stand the blessed Word of God as you do, it would be a treasure far before gold." '

VII. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

West Indies. 1. *Danish Islands.*—On the 29th of December, 1840, the Brethren Breutel and Häuser went from St. Thomas to St. John, where they remained till 28th of January, visited our two stations Emaus and Bethany, and took minute cognizance of all the affairs of the mission. On the 1st of February, they sailed on board a government schooner to St. Croix, for the same purpose. A special object of their attention was the schools about to be opened by direction of government, in the arrangement of which the Brethren Gardin and Joseph Roemer, who were called for the purpose on a visit to Antigua, and who had had experience in this branch on the English Islands, were actively engaged. The first of these schools was opened on the plantation Princess, with about 150 children. Our Brethren met with a very friendly reception from the Governor-General Von Scholten, and from the authorities on the three islands, and enjoyed their protection and assistance. Brother and Sister Schmidt found themselves under the necessity of going to Europe for their health, and arrived on the 10th of April, after a safe and expeditious voyage of only 33 days at Bremen.

2. *Antigua.*—On the 2d of April at 11 o'clock in the evening, a fire broke out in St. John's, not far from the premises of the Brethren, Spring-garden, which totally consumed two squares of the town, and was not entirely extinguished before the third day. At first, writes Brother Hartvig, we were also in danger, but the Lord gave such a direction to the fire by means of a steady south-easterly wind, that the rest of the town as well as ourselves, were preserved. Two or three only of our people were sufferers by the conflagration. For this preservation we offered our thanksgiving to the Lord next evening at the Lord's Supper. To ourselves and several others who have our text book, the Daily Word for April 3d, was remarkable: "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire thou shalt not be burnt; neither shall the flames kindle upon thee." Is. xliii. 2.

Brother Frederic Reichel, laborer of the single Brethren in Zeist, has been called to the service of the mission in Antigua. Brother David Nedwil, who is destined for the same place, was ordained June 2d, a Deacon of the United Brethren's Church, by the Bishop Brother John Beck Holmes, and on the following day was united in marriage with the single Sister Martha Armistead.

On the 5th, they set sail from London for Antigua. Brother and Sister Kieldsen and Sister Mary Baker had set sail for the same place and service on the 27th of May.

3. *Surinam.*—On December 20th, 1840, Br. and Sister Rasmus Schmidt commenced their journey from Worsteling-Jacobs to Gingee or Bambay, where they arrived on the 26th. The journey was very arduous. They were obliged to sleep six nights in the woods under

a slight roof of leaves, which only afforded them some shelter from above, and as it rained every day, their hammocks, covering and pillows at last became thoroughly wet. Nevertheless through the preservation of the Lord their health did not suffer. In Gingee they were joyfully received by the negroes, clad in their best clothes. Their dwelling being not yet completed, they were obliged for the first weeks to lodge on the floor of the church; it was not till January 10th, that they were enabled to move into it. It is a slight building, the walls platted and the roof of palm leaves; yet they felt happy in this little peaceful abode. In the first meetings soon after their arrival, near 100 souls were present, and the presence and the peace of Jesus were sensibly felt. On New Year's day the little church could scarcely contain the multitude of hearers. According to letters of February 1st, Brother and Sister Schmidt were still well. The widowed Sister Voight has gone for a time from Paramaribo to Berg-en-Dal, where she had 60 children assembled around her daily for school; and she also faithfully visits the sick.

4. *North American Indians.*—Br. Christian Miksch writes from Westfield, Missouri, under date of July 5th, that up to that time they had remained undisturbed by the persons formerly spoken of. The day of fasting and prayer recommended by President Tyler, in consequence of the death of his predecessor, was observed by the Indian congregation with much devoutness—such a solemnity being a novelty to them. The weather had been hot and dry, yet they had had some heavy thunder gusts, in one instance accompanied with hail of unusual size.

Brother Henry Bachman, in New Fairfield, U. C., gives information under date of July 26th, of an attempt made by him about the end of June, in company with an Indian Brother as interpreter, to look up the Puttewatemi Indians, located since last autumn on the boundaries of their land between the Thames River and Lake Erie. Although a part of them had left, he fell in with several companies of them, preached the Gospel to them, and invited them, if they felt disposed to become believers, to come to their countrymen at New-Fairfield and settle on their land. Some gave ear to him, some did not; and Brother Bachman observes, that he had in this instance also found that the simple narrative of our redemption through Jesus Christ, is that which most quickly excites the attention of the savages, and seems to make the most impression upon them; and concludes with the wish, that a mission may once be established among this savage people.

Brother Van Vleck writes from Salem, N. C., that they continue to receive information, for the most part favorable, from our Cherokee Mission. Fort Wayne, not far from Beattie's Prairie, was to be abandoned, and the prospect was that their station and two schools at that place would continue undisturbed. The two Brethren Gilbert Bishop and David Schmidt, who have been called to this Mission, were soon to set out, and to aid in the formation of a second station.

On the 23d of August, the Society of the Brethren for the Propagation of the Gospel among the Heathen, held its anniversary at Bethlehem.

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